

# MINUTES

OF THE

TWENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

## Unity Baptist Association

HELD WITH

BETHESDA BAPTIST CHURCH,

AUTAUGA Co., ALA., OCTOBER 2, 3 AND 4, 1880.

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### OFFICERS.

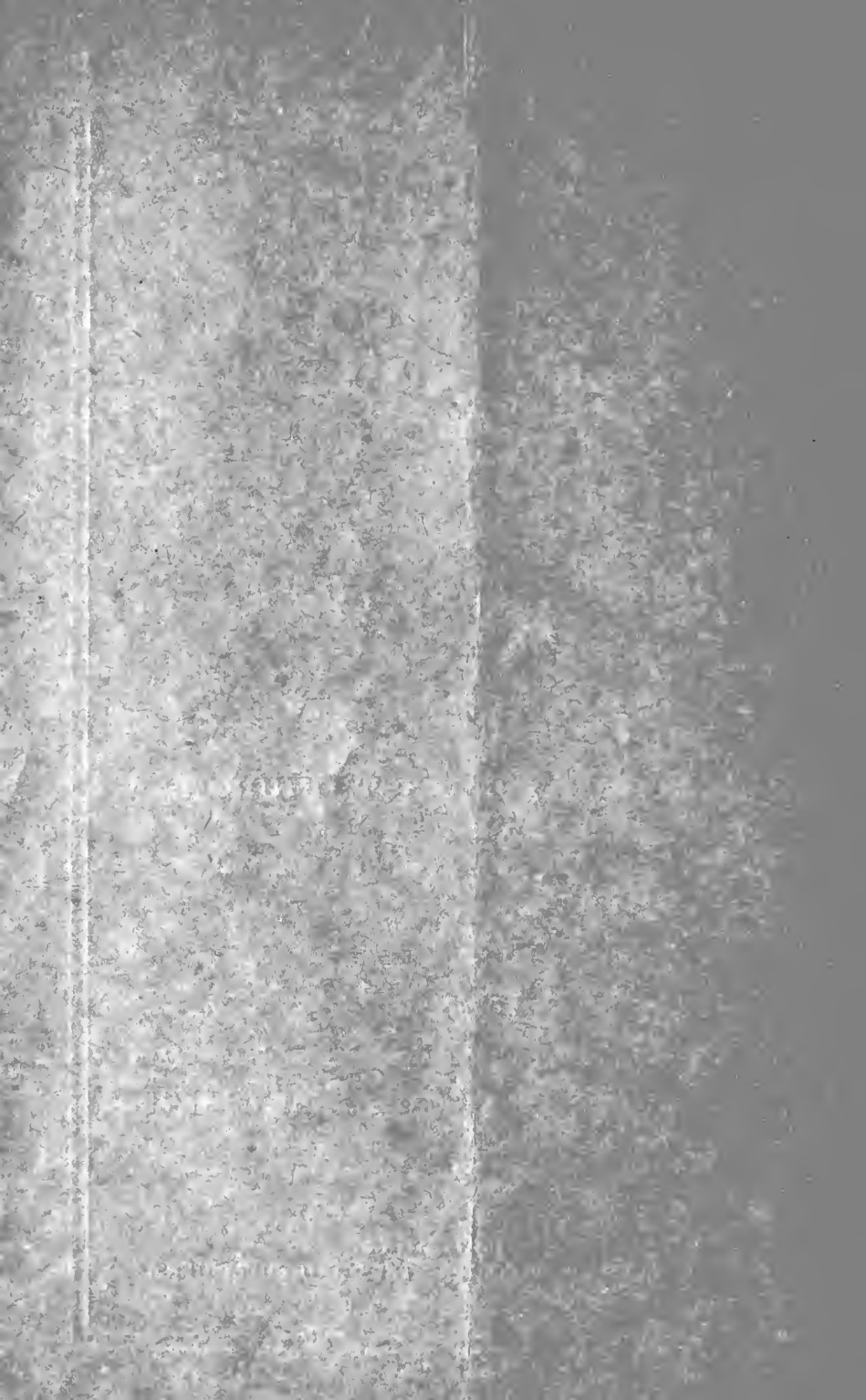
J. FALKNER .....	MODERATOR .....	Mountain Creek, Ala.
H. E. LONGRIER .....	CLERK .....	Randolph, Ala.
K. WELLS .....	TREASURER .....	Verbena, Ala.

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ATLANTA GA.:

JAS. P. HARRISON & CO., PRINTERS AND PUBLISHERS.

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## ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Introductory sermon.
2. Recess.
3. The Moderator calls the Association to order.
4. Letters read.
5. Organization.
6. Rules of Decorum read.
7. Ministers, not Messengers, invited to seats.
8. Admission of new churches.
9. Correspondents received and returned.
10. Appoint Committees—
  - (a.) On Preaching.
  - (b.) Letters and Documents.
  - (c.) Missions.
  - (d.) Bible-Schools.
  - (e.) Education.
  - (f.) Periodicals.
  - (g.) Deceased Ministers.
  - (h.) Aged and Infirm Ministers.
  - (i.) Finance.
  - (j.) Special.
11. Miscellaneous.
12. Adjourn.
13. Re-assemble.
14. Roll call.
15. Previous Minutes read.
16. Reports of Committees.
17. Introductory sermon next session.
18. Miscellaneous business.
19. Treasurer's Report.
20. Adjourn.

# MINUTES.

SATURDAY, October 2, 1880.

The Unity Baptist Association met in its twenty-sixth annual session with Bethesda Church, Antanga county, Ala.

At 11 o'clock A. M., Eler G. W. Mills preached the Introductory sermon, from Hosea, 4:6: "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge."

After an intermission for dinner, the delegates assembled in the church building. By request of Elder A. Andrews, Moderator of last session, Elder J. Falkner called the body to order, and, after reading the 90th Psalm, and singing the hymn—"How can I sink with such a prop?"—offered prayer.

Elder A. Andrews in the chair, proceeded to business by appointing Eld's W. Wilkes, J. Falkner and bro. W. J. Zimmerman to read the letters Names of delegates enrolled as follows:

Shady Grove—A. Andrews,\* O. Moore, W. J. Zimmerman.

Fellowship—V. T. Pierson, J. R. Hooks, W. R. Martin, L. E. Davis.

Plantersville—G. W. Mills,\* P. M. Moore, Wm. Moore.

Harmony—W. R. Wright, J. L. Caffy, W. C. Adair, J. L. Golson, H. E. Wallace.

Bethesda—J. Griffis, G. Sandford, George Smith, James Bates.

Bethel—A. B. Lassiter, C. H. McBride.

Big Springs—J. M. Apperson, W. Willis, W. W. Carter, W. J. Wright.

Union—G. W. Cobern, R. Z. Hill.

Liberty—F. A. Goolsby, J. A. Gunnels.

Mountain Creek—J. Falkner,\* A. L. Blizard,\* H. Evans.

Canaan—T. F. Thomasson.

Friendship—G. P. Olive,\* James Glenn.

Verbena—K. Wells, J. T. Cook.

Chestnut Creek—J. H. Ray,\* P. C. Dennis, F. M. Connell, J. A. Strock, John Moore.

Providence—Joseph Alred, John Easterling.

Cane Creek—J. Gore, John Miller.

Mount Zion—W. I. Mullens, J. T. Connell, H. C. Young, J. Vines, H. F. Mullens.

Shiloh—C. C. Billingsly,\* A. G. Patrick.

Pilgrim's Rest—W. A. Carter, John Carter, Perry Hester.

Ebenezer—John Mitchell, Pink Wigington.

Chestnut Hill—H. E. Longcrier.\*

Pleasant Grove—R. Latham.

Mulberry—James Rasberry.

Proceeded to elect officers for the ensuing Associational year. Elder A. Andrews declined being re-elected Moderator. On motion of W. C. Adair, Elder J. Falkner was unanimously elected Moderator by acclamation. After a few appropriate remarks, thanking the body for the confidence reposed in him, and declaring his intention of discharging his duties to the best of his ability, without respect to person, he took the Moderator's seat.

\*Ordained Ministers.

On motion of W. J. Zimmerman, H. E. Longcrier was re-elected Clerk. On motion of W. J. Zimmerman, the election of Treasurer was deferred indefinitely.

Rules of Decorum read by Elder A. L. Blizard. Ministers not messengers invited to seats.

A call for petitionary letters was responded to by Verbena, a newly-constituted church, which was cordially received by the Moderator extending the right-hand of fellowship to her messengers.

On motion of W. J. Zimmerman, K. Wells, one of the messengers who had withdrawn from Chestnut Creek church to go into the organization of Verbena, was re-elected Treasurer.

Correspondents received from sister Associations, as follows:

Coosa River—Elder W. Wilkes.

Mulberry—Z. W. Langston.

Alabama—O. W. Sherrer.

Returned correspondents, as follows:

Alabama—Elder J. H. Ray.

Mulberry—Elders G. W. Mills, A. L. Blizard.

Coosa River—Elders J. Falkner, G. W. Mills, brother K. Wells.

Baptist State Convention—Elders G. W. Mills, J. Falkner, A. L. Blizard, J. H. Ray, brethren G. W. Cobern, J. H. Burns.

On motion, the following resolution, adopted last session, was adopted as a standing resolution:

*Resolved*, That any member of this Association being in attendance at the Baptist State Convention, or any Association with whom we correspond, is hereby authorized to present himself as corresponding delegate from this Association.

The following committees were appointed by the Moderator:

On Preaching—W. J. Zimmerman, R. Latham, P. C. Dennis, and the pastor and deacons of Bethesda church.

On Letters and Documents—L. E. Davis, P. M. Moore, G. W. Cobern.

On Missions—A. Andrews—A. L. Blizard, C. C. Billingsly. To report next session.

On Bible Schools—K. Wells, L. V. Pierson, T. F. Thomasson. To report next session.

On Education—W. C. Adair, P. C. Dennis, J. R. Hooks. To report next session.

On Periodicals—W. I. Mullens, J. L. Caffey, J. M. Apperson.

On Deceased Ministers—G. P. Olive, J. A. Strock, A. G. Patrick.

On Aged and Infirm Ministers—V. T. Pierson, J. Griffiths, C. H. McBride. To report next session.

On Finance—W. J. Zimmerman, T. F. Thomasson, W. A. Carter.

On motion of A. L. Blizard, a special committee of five was appointed to re-district the churches of the Association. Committee—A. L. Blizard, A. Andrews, G. P. Olive, J. Rasberry, W. A. Carter.

On motion of J. H. Ray, a special committee on State Missions was appointed, as follows: J. H. Ray, G. W. Mills, K. Wells.

The Committee on Preaching reported as follows: Elder A. L. Blizard to preach to-night. Prayer-meeting to-morrow at 10 o'clock A. M., conducted by H. E. Longcrier. Preaching at 11 o'clock by Elder W. Wilkes; at 2 P. M. by Elder J. Falkner; Sunday night by Elder A. Andrews.

On motion of W. J. Zimmerman, a public collection was ordered to be taken up for missions at the close of the 11 o'clock sermon.

Adjourned, with singing and prayer by Elder W. Wilkes, to 9 o'clock A. M., Monday.

## SABBATH MORNING, 10 o'clock.

Prayer-meeting conducted by H. E. Longcrier. Prayer offered by A. G. Patrick, G. P. Olive, T. F. Thomasson. At 11 o'clock Eld. W. Wilkes preached from Ezekiel, 34:26; after which, \$29.30 was collected for missions. At 2 o'clock P. M., Elder J. Falkner preached from Eph., 2:8. At night, Elder A. Andrews preached from Heb., 10:23. Elder A. L. Blizard preached Saturday night from Gen., 5:24.

The congregations were very large, orderly and attentive. We have reason to believe that much good was accomplished in the name of Jesus.

## MONDAY, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Association was called to order by the Moderator. After reading the 2nd Psalm and singing the hymn—"I love thy kingdom, Lord,"—prayer by Elder A. L. Blizard.

Roll called and absentees marked. Previous minutes read and adopted. The regular order of business—the reports of letters and documents—read by L. E. Davis.

## LETTERS AND DOCUMENTS.

We have carefully examined all papers submitted to us, and find that several of our churches report glorious revivals, and some interesting Bible schools.

Shiloh church asks for assistance to erect a new church building. We recommend their request to your consideration.

Several of the churches recommend that Elder A. L. Blizard be sent as our beneficiary to Howard College, and have sent up pledges to aid in sending him. We cheerfully recommend that an effort be made to raise funds to send him at once.

Respectfully submitted.

L. E. DAVIS, *Chairman*.

## ON MISSIONS.

Elder G. W. Mills, chairman of the Committee on the report of Missions, made his report, it being the regular order of business:

The subject of missions is greatly on the increase among the Baptist denomination. This is evident through the great work now being done in both home and foreign fields. We have many efficient missionaries, both men and women, engaged in the great work, yet they are inadequate to the demand. Others are anxious to go, hence the great demand for means. Our Home Mission Board is now supplying many destitute places in our own sunny land, and sending the gospel to the heathen on our western borders. These self-sacrificing missionaries must be supported, or abandon the fields. Other bodies are "coming up to the help of the Lord against the mighty." Let us unite our efforts with theirs in this glorious work. The command of Christ and the wants of the perishing call upon us to lend a helping hand. Can we be disobedient to the command of our Savior? or shall the "Macedonian cry" for help come to us in vain? Can we not give our sympathies, our prayers and our money? Nay, brethren, let us be obedient; let us go forward. Our State Mission Board is doing a good work; but as you have a special committee on State Missions, we will say nothing about their work. May the blessings of God attend our labors in the great work.

Respectfully submitted.

G. W. MILLS, *Chairman*.

Discussed by Elder J. Falkner, and adopted.

## BIBLE SCHOOLS.

Elder A. L. Blizard, Chairman of the committee on Bible Schools, submitted the following report:

Your committee are glad to know that the conviction is growing stronger and stronger that the Bible school has its foundation laid upon Bible authority; that its work must be done upon Bible principles; and that its success depends upon Divine blessings. Let us not relax our efforts until there is a prosperous Bible school in every church and neighborhood, a Bible in the hands of every man, woman and child, and the gospel preached to every creature within our bounds. Let there be no lack of funds; no want of sympathy, no cessation of labor, until the voice of prayer and the songs of praise shall be heard every Sabbath day throughout the Unity Association. Knowing that the prosperity of the churches depends in a great measure upon the interest manifested in the Bible schools and prayer-meetings, your committee would most earnestly recommend that, in connection with the Bible schools, the churches would organize prayer-meetings. Let us not read this report and lay it aside for "a more convenient season;" but let us bestir ourselves during the ensuing year, and that an honest, faithful effort be made to organize and maintain a Bible school and prayer-meeting in every church and neighborhood in our Association.

Respectfully submitted.

A. L. BLIZARD, *Chairman.*

## ON EDUCATION.

Report on Education, furnished by W. C. Adair, chairman of the committee, and read by Elder W. Wilkes, as follows:

Education may be divided into general, collegiate and ministerial. All people should have a general education; as many as may be so situated and capacitated as to avail themselves of it, should have a collegiate education; but ministerial education is what this report looks to, mainly. By this is meant that mental training which prepares one to think clearly and speak intelligibly, possessing a fund of knowledge with which to be furnished with matter of thought and utterance. We recommend Howard College as the best school for our young preachers to attend. We also recommend great prominence to be given to the support of any approved brother looking to his education for the ministry. We personally commend brother A. L. Blizard to the patronage of the churches, and hope this Association will now take steps for his support at Howard College.

Respectfully submitted.

W. C. ADAIR, *Chairman.*

Discussed by Elder W. Wilkes, and adopted.

The following amounts were paid and pledges given for brother Blizard's support at Howard College:

## CASH.

Amount in hands of Treasurer, \$6.00; J. H. Ray, 7.50; O. Moore, 5.00; L. E. Davis, 5.00; W. W. Carter, 5.00; J. Falkner, 6.00; J. R. Rabberry, 5.00; P. M. Moore, 5.00; John Mitchell, 2.50; Wm. Moore, 2.50; J. M. Apperson, 1.00; K. Wells, 1.00; J. L. Golson, 1.00; Miss Mary Apperson, 25c. Total, \$52.75.

## PLEDGES.

Fellowship church, \$25.00; Ebenezer, 10.00; Harmony, 10.00; Chestnut Creek, 10.00; G. W. Mills, 5.00; P. C. Dennis, 5.00; C. H. McBride, 2.50; J. R. Hooks, 2.50; J. A. Gunnels, 2.50; A. B. Lassiter, 2.50; Geo.



Smith, 1.00; J. T. Cook, 2.50; Green Sanford, 2.00; Dora Sanford, 1.00; W. J. Zimmerman, 2.00; Sister Wallace, 2.00; J. Griffis, 2.00; J. H. Wright, 1.00; J. A. Strock, 1.50; Miss Bettie Apperson, 25c Total, \$90.25.

## ON PERIODICALS.

W. I. Mullens, Chairman of the Committee on Periodicals, submitted the following report, which was adopted:

We understand it to be the duty of this committee to recommend papers and periodicals to suit the wants of the Baptist denomination. We, therefore, recommend *The Religious Herald*, of Virginia, *The Baptist*, of Tennessee, and *The Christian Index*, of Georgia, (which has an Alabama department, edited by Samuel Henderson, D.D., of Alpine, Ala.) as being good, sound, and thoroughly Baptist; but we especially recommend our home paper, *The Alabama Baptist*. Through it, the brethren all over the State can express their opinions on the vital interests of our denomination; through it we learn what the people are doing for the cause of Christ all over the State; in it we find good lessons for all. The subscription price is in reach of all, only \$2.50 per annum. Send your names and subscriptions to Rev. John L. West, Selma, Ala. We also recommend the publications of the American Baptist Publication Society. We especially recommend *Kind Words* for our children and our Bible schools. It is devoted to the interest of the Southern Baptist Convention; edited by Elder Samuel Boykin, Macon, Ga.

Respectfully submitted.

W. I. MULLENS, *Chairman*.

## ON DECEASED MINISTERS.

Elder G. P. Olive, Chairman of the Committee on Deceased Ministers, reported that God, through His mercies, had spared the lives of all the ministers of this Association—that none have been called home since our last session.

## ON AGED AND INFIRM MINISTERS.

Elder G. W. Mills, Chairman of the Committee on Aged and Infirm Ministers, reported that there were none within the bounds of our Association but what were supplied with the necessaries of life.

## ON STATE MISSIONS.

Elder J. H. Ray, Chairman of the special committee on State Missions, reported as follows:

We have carefully examined the address sent out by the State Mission Board, and recommend that it be adopted by this Association. We also find that there are twenty-eight churches belonging to our Association, and recommend that we raise the amount asked for in said address, viz: \$175.00. The proportionate part of each church is about as follows:

Shady Grove.....	\$10 00	Mulberry .....	10 00	Verbena.....	10 00
Mountain Creek..	10 00	Fellowship.....	10 00	Chestnut Creek..	10 00
Ebenezer .....	10 00	Plantersville ...	6 00	Harmony.....	10 00
Bethel.....	6 00	Bethesda .....	6 00	Big Springs.....	10 00
Union .....	4 50	Liberty.....	4 50	Randolph .....	6 00
Shiloh .....	6 00	Pilgrim's Rest...	6 00	Pleasant Grove..	4 50
Chestnut Hill....	4 50	Canaan .....	4 50	Mount Zion.....	4 50
Corinth.....	4 50	Providence .....	4 50	Cane Creek.....	4 50
New Hope.....	4 50	Friendship .....	4 50	Clanton .....	5 00

Respectfully submitted.

J. H. RAY, *Chairman*.

Discussed by Elders J. H. Ray, A. Andrews, C. C. Billingsly, and W. Wilkes. Adopted.

Elder A. L. Blizard, Chairman of the committee to reorganize the Association into districts, submitted their report, which was adopted, and observed by the Clerk in arranging the statistical table.

On motion of Elder J. H. Ray, adjourned one hour for dinner. Prayer by Elder G. P. Olive.

On re-assembling, the Moderator called the body to order. Prayer by Elder C. C. Billingsly.

#### BENEFICIARY HOWARD COLLEGE.

Elder G. W. Mills, Chairman of the committee appointed last session to select some young minister as a beneficiary for Howard College, reported as follows: We made no selection, for the reason that we did not have sufficient encouragement to authorize an enterprise of that character, as there were only six dollars in the hands of the Treasurer, and no pledges could be obtained that would justify us in making a selection; therefore we did nothing.

Respectfully submitted.

G. W. MILLS, *Chairman.*

#### RESOLUTIONS.

The following resolutions were offered by Elder A. L. Blizard, and adopted, as an amendment to the resolution adopted last session as regards holding district meetings:

*Resolved*, That the churches of this Association send to their respective district meetings the same number of delegates that they send to the Association.

*Resolved*, That the delegates now present from each district of the Association assemble themselves together and nominate the time and place for holding a meeting in their respective districts; also, to appoint a minister to preach the introductory sermon at said meeting, and their reports to be published in the Minutes of the Association.

*Resolved*, That, at their respective district meetings, the delegates to nominate the time and place for holding meetings the next year, also the minister to preach the introductory sermon, and other matter that may be necessary to publish, and report the same to the next session of this body.

#### DISTRICT MEETINGS.

First District—Will be held with Harmony church, commencing Friday before the fifth Sabbath in January, 1881. Elder A. Andrews to preach the introductory sermon; Elder G. W. Mills, alternate.

Second District—To be held with Mountain Creek church, commencing Friday before the fifth Sabbath in May, 1881. Elder G. P. Olive to preach the introductory sermon; Elder J. H. Ray, alternate.

Third District—To be held with Chestnut Creek church, commencing Friday before the fifth Sabbath in October, 1880. Elder J. H. Ray to preach the introductory sermon; Elder G. W. Mills, alternate.

Fourth District—To be held with Shiloh church, commencing Friday before the fifth Sabbath in July, 1881. H. E. Longier to preach the introductory sermon; Elder T. J. Elam, alternate.

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.

W. J. Zimmerman, Chairman of the Finance committee, reported as follows:

Amount sent up by the churches—	
For Minutes.....	\$31 00
“ Associational Purposes.....	42 35
“ State Missions.....	25 15
“ Ministerial Education.....	5 00—\$103 50
Amount by Elder A. Andrews—	
For Indian Missions.....	10 00
“ State “ .....	10 00
“ Foreign “ .....	10 00
“ Ministerial Education.....	10 00— 40 00
Amount by Eld. J. H. Ray, for State Missions.....	5 00
“ “ A. G. Patrick, from Shiloh, State Missions.....	6 00
“ Collected on Sabbath for Missions.....	29 30
“ “ Monday for Ministerial Education.....	53 25
“ by Elder A. Andrews during the year to different objects.....	91 60

Total..... \$328 65

Respectfully submitted. W. J. ZIMMERMAN, *Chairman.*

On motion of Elder A. L. Blizard, the Clerk will superintend the printing of 1,000 copies of these Minutes.

On motion of K. Wells, \$60.00 be paid over to the Clerk to pay for printing Minutes, and services; also, \$5.00 contingent fee.

On motion of Elder J. H. Ray, all unappropriated funds be sent to Elder T. M. Bailey, Corresponding Secretary of the State Mission Board, to be appropriated by him for the different objects mentioned in the address of the State Mission Board.

On motion of Elder J. H. Ray, the Treasurer will take charge of the funds collected for the purpose of sending Elder A. L. Blizard to college, and for him to correspond at once with the President of Howard College, and make the best arrangements he can for brother Blizard to enter that college.

The following resolution, offered by W. J. Zimmerman, was adopted:

*Resolved,* That this Association affectionately recommend Elder A. L. Blizard to the churches in our bounds as our beneficiary in Howard College, and solicit each church to aid in his support.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

The Treasurer reported as follows:

1880.	DR.	
To amount in Treasury from last session.....		\$ 6 00
“ “ sent up for Minutes and Associa'l purposes...\$73 35		
“ “ “ “ Ministerial education.....		15 00
“ “ “ “ State Missions.....		46 15
“ “ “ “ Foreign “ .....		10 00
“ “ “ “ Indian “ .....		10 00
“ “ collected on Sunday for Missions.....		29 30
“ “ “ “ Monday for Minist'l education... 53 25—\$243 05		

1880.

CR.

By amount to Clerk for Minutes, services and contingent fee.....	\$ 65 00
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By amount in Treasury..... \$178 05

Respectfully submitted.

K. WELLS, *Treasurer.*

The next session of the Association will be held with Mulberry church. H. E. Longcrier appointed to preach the Introductory sermon; Elder J. H. Ray, alternate.

The following resolution, offered by W. J. Zimmerman, was unanimously adopted by a rising vote:

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Association are hereby tendered the brethren, sisters and friends in the community of Bethesda church for the kind reception given, and the generous hospitality extended to all during our stay among them.

Having gone through with the business of the Association, sang the hymn, "Blest be the tie that binds," gave each other the parting hand, united in prayer with Elder W. Wilkes, then adjourned, to meet with Mulberry church, Chilton county, Ala., six miles east of Mapleville, S. R. & D. R. R., Saturday before the first Sabbath in October, 1881.

J. FALKNER, *Moderator*.

H. E. LONGCRIER, *Clerk*.

#### NAMES AND ADDRESS OF MINISTERS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

NAME.	POST-OFFICE.	COUNTY.	STATE
A. Andrews.....	Burnsville.....	Dallas.....	Alabama.
G. W. Mills.....	Plantersville.....	Dallas.....	"
C. C. Billingsley ...	Verbena.....	Chilton.....	"
J. H. Ray.....	Deatsville.....	Chilton.....	"
A. L. Blizard.....	Cooper's Station.....	Chilton.....	"
J. Falkner.....	Mountain Creek.....	Chilton.....	"
J. A. Mullens.....	Clanton.....	Chilton.....	"
F. M. Vines.....	Clanton.....	Chilton.....	"
H. E. Longcrier ..	Randolph.....	Bobb.....	"
I. Wooten.....	Cooper's Station.....	Chilton.....	"
T. J. Elam.....	Randolph.....	Bobb.....	"
G. P. Olive.....	Verbena.....	Chilton.....	"
<i>Incumbents</i>			
O. N. Dobbs.....	Clanton.....	Chilton.....	"
J. L. Long.....	Verbena.....	Chilton.....	"
N. Thomasson.....	Mountain Creek.....	Chilton.....	"
T. D. Kenney.....	Collierville.....	Chilton.....	"
J. M. Thacker.....	Clanton.....	Chilton.....	"

# STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES.	PASTOR.	POST-OFFICE.	COUNTY.	Baptized.	By letter.	Restored.	Dismissed.	Excluded.	Dead.	Total.	Contributions.	Days of meeting.
Shady Grove.	A. Andrews.	Burnsville.	Dallas.	1	5	7	7	8	23	\$5 00	3	
Fellowship.	A. L. Blizard.	Morrowville.	Dallas.	20	5	7	7	8	152	5 00	4	
Plantersville.	G. W. Mills	Plantersville.	Dallas.	2	2	2	2	35	4 10	4 10	1	
Harmony.	J. Falkner.	Antaugaville.	Antauga.	6	1	1	1	2	68	4 00	4	
Bethesda.	J. H. Ray.	Antaugaville.	Antauga.	1	1	1	1	4	1	43	3 00	
Bethel.	H. E. Longrier.	Jones' Switch.	Antauga.	17	2	2	2	8	37	3 00	4	
Big Springs.	A. L. Blizard.	Independence.	Antauga.	10	1	1	1	8	2	66	3 00	
Union.	J. H. Ray.	Kingsdon.	Antauga.	1	1	1	1	23	2 00	2 00	2	
Liberty.	J. H. Ray.	Deatsville.	Antauga.	9	3	3	3	2	48	2 00	2	
M. L. Sina's.	J. Falkner.	Mountain Creek.	Chilton.	7	1	1	1	21	21	1 50	4	
Mountain Creek.	J. H. Ray.	Mountain Creek.	Chilton.	24	1	1	1	29	1 50	2 50	2	
Canan.	G. P. Olive.	Mountain Creek.	Chilton.	27	2	2	2	7	33	2 75	4	
New Hope*.	J. Falkner.	Verbena.	Chilton.	8	5	5	5	30	21	102	5 00	
Friendship.	A. L. Blizard.	Cooper's Station.	Chilton.	8	7	7	7	1	41	1 50	1	
Verbena.	G. P. Olive.	Cooper's Station.	Chilton.	4	4	4	4	1	1	85	2 00	
Chestnut Creek.	F. M. Vines.	Cooper's Station.	Chilton.	15	2	2	2	5	37	2 00	4	
Providence.	J. A. Mallens.	Chilton.	Chilton.	2	1	1	1	2	107	4 00	1	
Cane Creek.	O. N. Dobbs.	Chilton.	Chilton.	1	1	1	1	2	22	2 50	2	
Mt Zion.	J. Falkner.	Chilton.	Chilton.	18	2	2	2	4	80	3 00	3	
Chilton.	C. C. Billingsly.	Chilton.	Chilton.	2	2	2	2	8	54	2 50	3	
Shiloh.	A. L. Blizard.	Chilton.	Chilton.	2	2	2	2	3	1	68	5 00	
Pilgrim's Rest.	A. L. Blizard.	Collierville.	Chilton.	2	2	2	2	3	1	68	5 00	
Ebenezer.	G. W. Mills.	Collierville.	Chilton.	4	4	4	4	1	44	2 50	2	
Chestnut Hill.	H. E. Longrier.	Collierville.	Chilton.	8	3	3	3	4	1	35	2 00	
Pleasant Grove.	W. L. Cochran.	Randolph.	Chilton.	5	5	5	5	1	2	111	2 50	
Randolph*.	A. G. Rains.	Maplesville.	Chilton.	12	81	4	15	93	26	17	1476	\$78 85
Mulberry.												

\*Not represented.

**TIMES AND PLACES OF MEETING AND OFFICERS OF THE  
ASSOCIATION FROM ITS ORIGIN TO THE PRESENT.**

Year.	Place of meet- ing.	Pre-cher of Introductory Sermon.	Mcderator.	Clerk.	Treasurer.
1855	Shady Grove..	J. R. Sartor...	B. B. Smith....	J. N. Graddick.	J. Nunn.
1856	Plantersville...	A. C. Patillo...	B. B. Smith....	J. I. Lamar....	J. Nunn.
1857	Mulberry .....	A. Andrews .....	B. B. Smith....	J. I. Lamar....	J. Nunn.
1858	Kingston.....	D. M. Lloyd ...	J. D. Moodie...	J. I. Lamar....	J. Nunn.
1859	Harmony .....	J. H. Ray.....	I. W. Wilkes...	J. I. Lamar....	J. Nunn.
1860	Ebenezer .....	J. D. Moodie...	I. W. Wilkes...	J. I. Lamar....	J. Nunn.
1861	Chestnut Creek	W. Wilkes.....	I. W. Wilkes...	J. I. Lamar....	L. B. Parker.
1862	Bethesda.....	A. Andrews....	I. W. Wilkes...	A. L. Haralson.	L. B. Parker.
1863	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1864	Randolph.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1865	Plantersville...	A. Andrews....	A. Andrews....	W. R. Gandy...	L. B. Parker.
1866	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1867	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1868	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1869	Bethel .....	A. Andrews .....	A. Andrews....	W. C. Adair....	L. B. Parker.
1870	Mt. Hebron....	W. Lee.....	A. Andrews....	W. C. Adair....	L. B. Parker.
1871	Mulberry.....	J. Allen.....	A. Andrews....	W. C. Adair....	L. B. Parker.
1872	Chestnut Creek	W. Lee.....	A. Andrews....	J. L. Williams.	W. C. Adair.
1873	Big Springs....	J. A. Mullens.	A. Andrews....	H. E. Longcrier	W. C. Adair.
1874	Plantersville..	G. W. Mills....	A. Andrews....	H. E. Longcrier	K. Wells.
1875	Mt. Zion.....	Wm. Lee.....	Wm. Lee.....	H. E. Longcrier	K. Wells.
1876	Ebenezer.....	J. A. Mullens.	Wm. Lee.....	H. E. Longcrier	K. Wells.
1877	Harmony.....	A. Andrews....	Wm. Lee.....	H. E. Longcrier	K. Wells.
1878	Chestnut Creek	F. M. Vines....	A. Andrews....	H. E. Longcrier	K. Wells.
1879	Fellowship....	A. L. Blizard ..	A. Andrews....	H. E. Longcrier	K. Wells.
1880	Bethesda .....	G. W. Mills....	J. Falkner....	H. E. Longcrier	K. Wells.

No minutes are recorded in the associational book for the years 1863, 1866, 1867 and 1868. In 1864 no business was transacted, and no minutes printed.

**A Request.**—If those who have them will send me Minutes from the origin of the Association to the year 1871. I will furnish the balance and have them bound, the bound volume to be the property of the Association. Send to H. E. Longcrier, Randolph, Ala.

## ARTICLES OF FAITH.

1. We believe in one only living and true God—the Father, Son and Holy Ghost ; these three are one—I Corinthians viii:6 Deuteronomy vi:4. Matthew xxiii:19. II Corinthians xiii:14. I John v:7.

2. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the Word of God, and the only correct rule of faith and practice. II Peter i:21. II Timothy iii:16.

3. We believe in the doctrine of election, and that God chose His people in Christ before the foundation of the World, through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth.—I Peter i:2-5. Ephesians i:4. II Thessalonians i:13.

4. We believe in the doctrine of original sin.—Romans iii:23; v:12; iii:10.

5. We believe in man's inability to recover himself from the fallen state he is in by nature. Romans v:6. John vi:44. Ephesians ii:1-5. Phillipians ii:13.

6. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God only by the imputed righteousness of Christ.—Romans v:1. Galatians ii:16-20.

7. We believe that the saints shall persevere in grace and never finally fall away.—Corinthians xii:9. Colossians iii:4. Romans viii:38-39.

8. We believe that baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of the Church of Christ, and that true believers are the only proper subjects, and that immersion only is baptism.—Mathew iii:5, 6, 13, 16. Acts vii 37-38. Acts vii:38-39.

9. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and a general judgment. Acts xvii:31. John v:28-29.

10. We believe that the joys of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be everlasting. Matthew xxv:6.

11. We believe that no minister has a right to administer the ordinances except those who are called of God, and have been regularly baptized, approved by the church, and come under the imposition of hands by a Presbytery.---I Timothy v:22. Acts vi:16.

12. We believe that none but regularly baptized believers have a right to partake of the Lord's Supper.---Acts ii:42-44. II Corinthians vi:14. I Corinthians xi:23-29.

## RULES OF DECORUM.

1. The Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.
2. The officers of the Association shall be chosen by the suffrages of the members present.
3. The Moderator shall be considered a judge of order, and shall have discretionary right to call to order at any time.
4. Any member not satisfied with his decision may appeal to the Association on the same day, but at no other time.
5. But one member shall speak at a time, and he shall rise, and, obtaining permission, proceed ; such permission being signified by the Moderator naming the person, or otherwise.
6. No person shall be interrupted while speaking, unless he depart from the subject ; and every motion made and seconded, in order shall come under the consideration of the Association, and be decided, unless withdrawn by him who made it.
7. Every case taken up by the Association shall be decided or withdrawn before another is offered.
8. When a question has been introduced, and sufficient time allowed for debate, the Moderator shall take the voice of the Association upon the subject ; those in the affirmative shall make it known by saying aye, and those in the negative, nay. If a division of the question is called for, the decision shall be made by the members rising from their seats.
9. The appellation " brother " shall be used in the Association when one brother addresses another.
10. Any member wishing to retire shall obtain permission from the Moderator.
11. The names of the delegates shall be called as often as the Association shall direct.
12. The Moderator shall be entitled to the same privileges of speaking as any other member, provided he appoints another to his seat ; but shall not vote, unless the Association be equally divided. He may also appoint committees necessary for transacting any business that may, from time to time, come before the Association.
13. Any member violating these rules shall be reproved by the Moderator, but only on the day such violation occurs.
14. These rules shall be read at the opening of every session of the Association, and may be altered or amended whenever a majority of the members present shall deem it necessary.



## CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. This Association shall be known as "THE UNITY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION," and shall be composed of delegates from such churches as constitute, or may hereafter unite with, this body.

ART. 2. The design of its labors shall be to promote the cause of Christ, and to encourage those objects supported by Baptists generally.

ART. 3. This Association shall hold its session annually, at such a time and place as it may appoint.

ART. 4. The officers of this Association shall be a Moderator, a Clerk and a Treasurer—to be elected at each session—who shall perform all the duties appertaining to such offices in similar bodies; and in case of the absence of any officer, one *pro tem.* shall be appointed by the Association until an election is declared.

ART. 5. A record of the proceedings of this Association shall be kept by the Clerk, and as soon as practicable after the close of each session, he shall superintend the printing of the Minutes thereof, and shall furnish each church with a suitable number of copies.

ART. 6. Any church subscribing to our Abstract of Faith may be admitted into this Association by the consent of the members in session.

ART. 7. Any church, orthodox in faith and practice, which has complied with this Constitution, may withdraw from this body by the consent of a majority of the members in session.

ART. 8. This Association, in regular session, may dissolve its connection with any church which may differ with it in doctrine or practice.

ART. 9. Any church of this Association with thirty members or less shall be entitled to three delegates, and one additional delegate for every additional twenty-five members, or fractional part thereof.

ART. 10. It shall be the duty of each church to forward a written communication to every session, specifying the names of its delegates and the state of the church.

ART. 11. If a difficulty should arise in a church, which cannot be settled thereby, the church shall call aid from two or more sister churches; if the matter cannot then be adjusted, it shall be referred to the Association for advice.

ART. 12. All queries must be acted upon by the churches in which they may originate; and when they fail to be disposed of therein, must be reported, by letter, to the Association: the decision thereof shall be considered an advisory answer.

ART. 13. This Association shall have a fund supplied by the voluntary contributions of the churches; and all moneys thus contributed shall be transmitted and paid over to the Finance Committee, and said committee to pay over to the Treasurer.

ART. 14. Any article of this Constitution may be altered or amended by a vote of two-thirds of the delegates present at any regular session.



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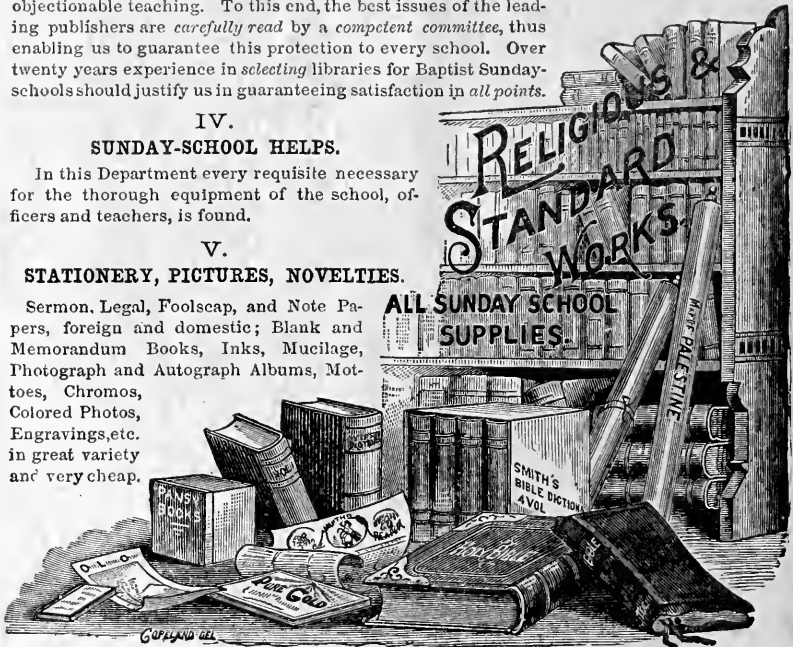
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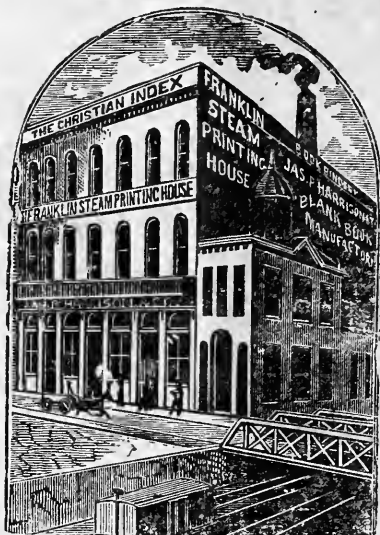
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