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DeLAND FLORIDA

PROCEEDINGS

—OF THE—

THIRD ANNUAL SESSION

—OF THE—

**Middle Florida
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**

—HELD WITH—

Pleasant Grove Baptist Church,

Lafayette County, Fla.,

October 14th, 15th and 16th, 1902.

OFFICERS:

- REV. J. T. FARNELL, Moderator.....Day, Florida.
REV. H. B. GIBSON, Secretary.....Madison, Florida.
F. B. WILLIAMS, Treasurer.....Madison, Florida.

Ocala, Fla.:
Baptist Witness Book and Job Print.
1903.

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ORDAINED MINISTERS AND POST OFFICES.

I. R. CLEMENTSMadison, Fla.
J. T. FARNELLDay, Fla.
J. A. GANDYAucilla, Fla.
H. B. GIBSONMadison, Fla.
R. F. HACKERStephensville, Fla.
J. M. HAMPTONAucilla, Fla.
J. T. MONTGOMERYAucilla, Fla.
J. L. RUTHERFORDHopewell, Fla.
W. J. SULLIVANAucilla, Fla.
L. J. TOWNSENDSlayton, Fla.
Wm. M. TAMPLINLee, Fla.
JAMES E. VANNLamont, Fla.
A. N. WOODWARDMadison, Fla.

NOTE.—Churches are requested to send names of licen-
tiates and post office address.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Introductory Sermon.
2. Enrolling names of messengers.
3. Election of Moderator and Clerk.
4. Invite visiting brethren to seats with us.
5. Call for petitionary letters.
6. Call for correspondents.
7. Appoint committees.
8. Elect messengers to the Florida Baptist Convention.
9. Elect messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention.
10. Unfinished business.
11. Reports of committees.
12. Elect Executive Committee.
13. Elect Treasurer.
14. Address of agents.
15. Appoint correspondents.
16. Miscellaneous business.
17. Adjournment.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

J. C. SCRUGGSAucilla, Fla.
JNO. W. DAYDay, Fla.
J. A. JACKSONPerry, Fla.
H. B. GIBSONMadison, Fla.
R. J. CARROLLLamont, Fla.
F. B. WILLIAMS, TreasurerMadison, Fla.

MINUTES.

Pleasant Grove Church, October 16, 1902.

The third annual session of the Middle Florida Baptist Association this day convened with the above named church, located in LaFayette county, Florida. The Introductory Sermon was preached at 11 a. m. by Elder J. T. Farnell from John 3:14-15. Elder S. G. Davenport led in prayer. Benediction.

Afternoon Session.

The former Moderator and Clerk being present, the Moderator read the first twelve verses of the fifth chapter of Matthew. Bro. J. T. Woodward led in prayer.

The roll of churches was called and letters were handed in. The Moderator appointed Elders R. F. Hacker and H. B. Gibson to read the letters, the Clerk enrolling the names of messengers.

The Association was permanently organized by re-electing by acclamation the former Moderator and Clerk.

Bro. S. Warren was received as a messenger from Pine Grove Church.

Invited visiting brethren to seats with us. Accepted by Elders S. G. Davenport and J. W. Grantham, of the LaFayette Association.

Called for petitionary letters Beulah Baptist Church, in Madison county, Florida, presented her letter by the hands of her messengers. On motion she was received and the right hand of fellowship was extended by the Moderator to her messengers, Bros. J. R. Henderson and B. C. Webb. Aucilla and Olive Branch Churches, from Jefferson county, Mt. Gilead, San Pedro, Oakland and Pleasant Hill Churches, from Taylor county, Florida, presented letters of dismissal from the Florida Baptist Association. On motion they were received and the right hand of fellowship was extended to their messengers by the Moderator.

Called for correspondents.

The Moderator appointed the following committees:

Preaching—Pastor and deacons of Pleasant Grove Church, with A. D. Townsend.

Sunday Schools—J. C. Scruggs, L. J. Townsend, J. S. Pinson, B. L. Raines.

Periodicals—R. F. Hacker, W. J. Sullivan, J. C. Scruggs.

Deceased Ministers and Deacons—L. J. Townsend, B. C. Webb, D. W. Townsend.

Missions—W. J. Sullivan, L. J. Townsend, T. P. Newman.

Ministerial Education—R. F. Hacker, J. C. Scruggs, Jno. T. Woodward.

Nominations—W. J. Sullivan, R. F. Hacker, Wm. M. Tamplin.

Woman's Work—Wm. M. Tamplin, W. E. Folsom, W. E. Vann.

The Committee on Preaching reported Rev. J. L. Rutherford to preach at 7 p. m. and Rev. R. F. Hacker to preach tomorrow at 11 a. m.

On motion, the right hand of fellowship was extended to Rev. J. L. Rutherford, missionary, in behalf of Spring Hill Church.

It was moved and carried that this Association endorse the plan to establish an orphans' home and appoint a committee at each session to report on the same. The Moderator appointed B. Shepard, L. J. Townsend and D. W. Townsend as such committee for this session.

The following brethren were appointed a committee to divide the Association into two union meeting districts, with the Moderator as chairman: J. C. Scruggs, Wm. M. Tamplin, W. W. Cornett and H. B. Gibson.

Fixed the time for meeting at 9 a. m.; to adjourn at 11 a. m.; meet at 1:30 p. m. and adjourn at will.

Adjourned till 9 a. m. tomorrow. The Moderator pronounced the benediction.

SECOND DAY—Morning Session.

Met pursuant to adjournment. The Moderator read the nineteenth Psalm and led in prayer.

The Moderator appointed Brethren R. J. Carroll, J. C. Scruggs and J. R. Henderson on the Finance Committee.

Called for letters and enrolled names of messengers. Invited visiting brethren to seats with us. Called for petitionary letters. Called for correspondents. Moved and carried that the election of messengers to the Florida Baptist Convention and the Southern Baptist Convention be postponed till tomorrow at 3 p. m. Moved and carried that the proceedings of the union meetings be read by the Clerk. Rev. R. F. Hacker was ...

quested to address the Association in reference to the destitution within its bounds.

Call for reports of committees. Rev. R. F. Hacker read the

Report on Periodicals.

This is a progressive age, an age in which a great deal of reading and thinking are done. Therefore to keep pace with the world and be able to cope with Satan and his emissaries we must of necessity port ourselves and keep in touch with God's children. We recommend as a means of obtaining this knowledge the reading and distributing of the Home Field and Foreign Mission Journal. We also take pleasure in recommending to the people of our Association our State organ, the Florida Baptist Witness. We also ask the fathers and mothers of our Association to be very careful in the selection of the books and periodicals they allow their children to read, as books go a long way toward influencing a child's character. Respectfully submitted.

R. F. HACKER, Chairman.

Discussed by W. J. Sullivan, R. F. Hacker and others and adopted.

The report of the Committee on Nominations was read and adopted.

Report on Nominations.

We suggest the following Executive Committee: J. C. Scruggs, J. W. Day, R. J. Carroll, J. A. Jackson, H. B. Gibson, and J. T. Woodward. For Treasurer, F. B. Williams. Rev. R. F. Hacker to preach the Introductory Sermon; alternate, Rev. J. T. Montgomery. Respectfully submitted.

W. J. SULLIVAN, Chairman.

Adjourned till 1:30 p. m.

Preaching at 11 a. m. by Rev. R. F. Hacker from Prov. 25:11.

Afternoon Session.

Met pursuant to adjournment. The Moderator read the ninety-fourth Psalm and Bro. H. B. Gibson led in prayer.

Called for letters and enrolled names of messengers. Renewed the invitation to visiting brethren to accept seats with us. Called for correspondents. Moved and carried that the business postponed till 3 p. m. today be taken up and dispensed with.

Elders W. J. Sullivan, R. F. Hacker, L. J. Townsend, J. T. Farnell and Bro. J. C. Scruggs volunteered as messengers to the Florida Baptist Convention to meet in Lake City. W. J. Sullivan volunteered as a messenger to the Southern Baptist

Convention to be held in Savannah, Ga., May, 1903. The report of the Committee on Woman's Work was read and adopted.

Report on Woman's Work.

We, your Committee on Woman's Work, beg leave to report the following:

We recommend collecting of funds for missions, helping in charities and other church work; also to teach the children the gospel lesson of liberality, and, brethren, we recommend that the brethren of our many churches assist the sisters in making a start, feeling assured that there is something for every child of God to do. Respectfully submitted,

W. M. TAMPLIN, Chairman.

The report of the Committee on Deceased Ministers and Deacons was read and adopted.

Report on Deceased Ministers and Deacons.

We thank God that we can still report that all of the ministers of our Association have been graciously spared—none have fallen. With sadness and sorrow we have to report the death of Deacon Martin Bishop, a pillar of Aucilla Church, who has fallen asleep in Jesus. Respectfully submitted.

L. J. TOWNSEND, Chairman.

The following resolution was offered and adopted:

Whereas, God has seen fit to remove from our midst Deacon Martin Bishop, be it resolved that a page in our minutes be devoted to his memory.

J. L. Rutherford read the

Report on Orphans' Home.

We believe that no charitable work is more important than the care of those who have been bereft of their earthly parents. We should feel that we are the chosen agents of their Heavenly Father to care for and educate them as we believe our Father and theirs would desire.

We hail with thanksgiving the efforts to establish an orphans' home in our State, and believe that every member should feel under obligation to contribute liberally to this object. We recommend that every church make the orphans' home a special feature in their church work, and that our Association make a collection for this purpose at each annual session.

B. SHEPARD, Chairman.

After a few remarks by W. J. Sullivan, R. F. Hacker and others, the report was adopted.

At this juncture a collection was taken up for the orphans' home, amounting to \$2 in pledges and \$10 in cash.

The Committee on Preaching reported Rev. J. L. Rutherford

to preach at 7:30 p. m. and Rev. W. J. Sullivan to preach tomorrow at 11 a. m.

The report of the Committee on Temperance was read and adopted.

Report on Temperance.

We believe that our churches should never fail to fight intemperance. We should be temperate in all things, abstain ourselves from intoxicating drinks, in the use of language, in dealing with our fellowman, in our daily walk through life. We recommend temperance in its fullness. Temperance is one of the very important features of Christianity. Respectfully submitted.

R. J. CARROLL, Chairman.

The report of the Committee on Sunday Schools was read and adopted.

Report on Sunday Schools.

Dear Brethren: We, your Committee on Sunday Schools, are glad to find that there is some interest taken in this line of work in our Association, but seeing so few churches reporting Sunday schools we urge upon our churches the necessity of deeper, more earnest and greater effort toward the spiritual training of the children of our Association, pointing them to the brightest ideal of life, a true Christian, and encouraging them by our presence in Sunday school. In them lies the hope of our church influence in the future. Therefore how careful we should be to lead and direct them along the path our Savior trod. By so doing we can make our influence felt for time and eternity.

Respectfully submitted.

J. C. SCRUGGS,

Chairman.

Rev. W. J. Sullivan read the

Report on Missions.

The crying need of the world today is the Gospel—its knowledge, its saving power. The crying need of the churches is to preach this Gospel, not to a few, but to every creature, and performing the functions for which it was created and executing the trust committed to it. To do this successfully we need to employ every laudable means to rouse not only every church, but every member enlisted in hearty sympathy and active co-operation with this grand movement. We have general organizations in our Home, Foreign and State Boards, but we need more particularly organizations in our churches, that we may sustain the general boards.

As your committee, we recommend that during the coming year we strive to reach a more effective state of organization in our own churches. Let the preachers, through their sermons and pastoral associations, seek to instruct and enlighten the

churches and individual members. Let the churches seek to agitate and arouse thorough organizations of missionary societies, Young People's Unions, Sunday schools and by diffusing our literature bearing on the subject, till every member is not only aroused, but actively engaged in praying, giving and working for the one grand accomplishment, "preaching the Gospel to every creature," that we may have the fulfillment of the promise of our Master, "Lo, I am with you." Respectfully submitted.

W. J. SULLIVAN, Chairman.

Discussed by W. J. Sullivan, W. M. Tamplin, L. J. Townsend and others and adopted.

The report on Ministerial Education was read by Bro. J. C. Scruggs.

Report on Ministerial Education.

We, your Committee on Ministerial Education, feel that the education of our ministry is a matter of paramount importance. It is a deplorable fact that too many of our ministers fail to realize that preachers are to be teachers, and to teach they must be able to understand, themselves, and therefore they give too little heed to the gaining of knowledge. Our churches should be careful that those whom they elect for ordination are properly qualified to instruct.

We are glad to know that there are so many good schools and colleges where our ministry may receive a liberal education. We especially recommend the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, of Louisville, Ky., and our own John B. Stetson University, of DeLand, Fla. Respectfully submitted.

R. F. HACKER, Chairman.

Discussed by W. J. Sullivan, J. C. Scruggs and others and adopted.

The report of the committee on dividing the Association into two union meeting districts was read and adopted.

Report on Division of Association.

We, your committee on dividing the Association into two union districts, beg leave to report that we think it will be beneficial to the cause to divide the Association into two union districts, but we suggest that the fixing of the boundaries of said districts be laid over till the next meeting of the union to be determined. Respectfully submitted.

J. T. FARNELL,

Chairman.

The Treasurer's Report was read and adopted.

Treasurer's Report.

F. B. Williams, Treasurer, in account with the Middle Florida Baptist Association:

DR.: 1901, Dec. 15, to balance on hand from last year,

\$38.81; Dec. 28, received from union at Pleasant Grove, LaFayette county, \$6.60; 1902, March 29, from union at Macedonia, \$8; June 29, from union at New Macedonia, \$18; August 31, from union at Hopeful, \$6.34; from Rev. J. L. Rutherford, from San Pedro, \$2.65. October 13, amount on hand, \$129.90.

CR.: 1901, Nov. 9, paid H. B. Gibson, Clerk's fee and printing of minutes, \$23; 1902, Feb. 8, postage on minutes, 60 cents; March 29, paid Rev. J. L. Rutherford for fifty-four days' missionary labor, \$54; June 28, paid Rev. J. A. Gandy, for two days' missionary labor, \$2. Total paid out, \$79.60.

October 13, 1902, balance on hand, \$50.30.

Respectfully submitted.

F. B. WILLIAMS,

Treasurer.

The report of the Finance Committee was read and adopted. The total amount sent up to the Association was \$73.76.

The Committee on Preaching reported Rev. J. L. Rutherford to preach tonight at 7:30 p. m. and Rev. W. J. Sullivan tomorrow at 11 a. m.

The report of the Executive Committee was read and adopted.

Report of the Executive Committee.

We met December 28, 1901, and employed Rev. J. L. Rutherford as a missionary in the Middle Florida Association, to work in the destitute parts. We employed him for one-fourth of his time and agreed to pay him \$1 a day. March 29, 1902, we met. Rev. J. L. Rutherford made his report of eight days and we paid him for the same. In June, 1902, we met and he made his report of twenty-eight days and was paid for the same. In August, 1902, we met and he made his report of eighteen days and was paid for the same. Total, fifty-four days. Respectfully submitted.

A. N. WOODWARD, Chairman.

Report of Missionary.

Rev. J. L. Rutherford, Missionary of the Middle Florida Association, submitted the following report:

Number of days employed, 54; sermons preached, 53; members received, 12; religious visits, 56; Sabbath school lectures, 4; number of miles traveled, 915; churches visited which came to the Association, 3.

Respectfully submitted.

J. L. RUTHERFORD,

Missionary.

Adjourned till tomorrow, 9 a. m.

Religious exercises at 7:30 p. m., conducted by Rev. J. L. Rutherford. Sermon from Romans 12:1-2.

THIRD DAY.—Morning Session.

Met pursuant to adjournment. The Moderator read the thirteenth chapter of First Corinthians. Rev. William Tamplin led in prayer.

Called for letters and enrolled names of messengers.

Invited visiting brethren to seats with us.

Called for petitionary letters.

Called for correspondents.

A committee was appointed to confer with the brethren from Antioch Church, in Hamilton county. The Moderator appointed on that committee Brethren J. C. Scruggs, J. A. Jackson, W. E. Folsom, B. L. Raines and A. D. Townsend.

Called for correspondents to visit sister associations. Brethren J. T. Farnell and W. E. Folsom volunteered to correspond with the LaFayette Association. Brethren J. T. Farnell, J. L. Rutherford and B. L. Raines volunteered to correspond with the Florida Association.

It was carried that the time of the meeting of the Association be changed from Tuesday to Wednesday before the third Sunday in October.

It was ordered that the Clerk be paid the associational fund for his services.

The Association voted to adjourn to the school house to complete its work.

Adjourned till 1:30 p. m.

The Missionary Sermon was preached at 11 a. m. by Elder W. J. Sullivan from Matthew 23:18-19-20, after which a collection was taken for associational missions amounting to \$2.25.

Afternoon Session.

Met pursuant to adjournment. The Moderator read the first Psalm. Elder J. L. Rutherford led in prayer.

The report of the committee appointed to confer with the brethren from Antioch Church in Hamilton county was read by Bro. J. C. Scruggs and adopted.

Report of Conference Committee.

We beg leave to report that while we deeply sympathize with these brethren who have separated themselves from Corinth Church in their trouble, yet we cannot but believe that the brethren are out of order, and the only course we can recommend is for the brethren to get in order with Corinth Church,

and then they will be in shape to apply for membership in any association. Respectfully submitted.

J. C. SCRUGGS, Chairman.

Carried, that when the Clerk has the minutes printed and ready for distribution, to draw a draft on the Treasurer for funds to pay for the same.

It was decided that the next session of the Association convene with the Pine Grove Church, four miles north of Madison, Fla.

The following resolution of thanks was offered:

Resolved, That the thanks of this body be and are hereby extended to the brethren, sisters and friends of this community for their open-handed hospitality and the brotherly way in which they entertained the Association.

During the singing of the hymn, "Blest Be the Tie That Binds," the parting hand was extended to the brethren, sisters and friends, and the Association adjourned to meet on Wednesday before the third Sunday in October, 1903, with Pine Grove Baptist Church, four miles north of Madison, Fla.

H. B. GIBSON,
Clerk.

J. T. FARNELL,
Moderator.

SACRED

TO THE

MEMORY

...OF...

DEACON MARTIN BISHOP,

OF AUCILLA CHURCH.

AT REST.

Left earthly scenes and entered
into Heavenly joys.

ROLL OF CHURCHES, PASTORS, CLERKS AND POSTOFFICES

| CHURCHES | COUNTY | PASTOR | CLERK | POSTOFFICE | MESSENGERS |
|-----------------|-----------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|---|
| Anella † | Jefferson | W. J. Sullivan | G. T. Bishop | Anella, Fla. | Rev. W. J. Sullivan, J. C. Scruggs |
| Brewer Lake | Lafayette | S. G. Davenport | A. D. Townsend | Day, " | A. D. Townsend, D. W. Townsend |
| Beulah * | Madison | Wm. M. Tomplin | J. R. Henderson | Lee, " | J. B. Henderson, E. C. Webb |
| Hopewell | " | I. B. Clements | B. F. Kelly | Hopewell, " | J. J. Lamb |
| Love Oak | " | W. H. Kelly | G. F. Martin | Madison, " | J. S. Platon, Rev. J. L. Rutherford |
| Macedonia | " | J. T. Farnell | W. B. Rye | " | W. W. Cornett, F. B. Williams, J. T. Woodward |
| Midway | " | | T. J. Dixon | Lee, " | Rev. Wm. M. Tomplin |
| Mt. Moriah | " | J. T. Farnell | F. P. Newman | Hidden, " | T. F. Newman |
| Mt. Gilead † | Taylor | J. E. Vann | W. B. Vann | Lamont, " | W. B. Vann |
| New Hopewell | Madison | A. N. Woodward | H. B. Gibson | Madison, " | By H. B. Gibson |
| New Macedonia | " | R. F. Hacker | T. M. Barclay | Greenville, " | By letter |
| Ohio Branch † | Jefferson | R. F. Hacker | W. H. Walker | Lamont, " | R. J. Carroll, B. Shepard |
| Oakland † | Taylor | J. E. Vann | W. W. Whidden | Waylesco, " | K. S. Wilson, J. O. Standley |
| Pleasant Grove | Lafayette | S. G. Davenport | L. B. Bullard | Shayton, " | L. J. Townsend, W. Polson, J. T. Lyons |
| Pleasant Grove | Taylor | W. H. Kelly | J. A. Tedder | Iddo, " | By letter |
| Pleasant Hill † | " | | J. M. Hodge | Lake Joe, " | By letter |
| Pine Grove | Madison | I. B. Clements | J. L. Warren | Madison, " | R. L. Raines, S. Warren |
| San Pedro † | Taylor | J. L. Rutherford | W. H. Denmark | Perry, " | J. A. Jackson, Wm. Parker |
| Triumph | " | | P. J. Carrin | Stephensville, " | R. F. Hacker |

Notes—Churches marked thus, †, were received by letters of dismission from the Florida Association.

—Churches marked thus, *, were received by petitionary letters.

FINANCIAL TABLE

| CHURCHES | When Constituted | Valuation of Church Property | Pastor's Salary | Unusual Repairs and Building | Amount Sent Up for Missions and Home Charities During the Year | Minute Fund | Associational Fund | Associational Miscelous | Aged Ministers' Relief Fund |
|----------------|------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|--|-------------|--------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Ancilla | 1855 | \$ 360 00 | \$ 75 00 | \$ 5 00 | \$16 00 | \$ 1 50 | \$ 1 75 | \$ 5 00 | \$ 2 50 |
| Brewer Lake | | 300 00 | 25 00 | | | 25 00 | 1 25 | | |
| Beniah | 6-9 1902 | | | | | 25 00 | 50 | | |
| Hopewell | | | | | | 50 00 | | 50 | |
| Live Oak | | 300 00 | | | | 50 00 | 55 | 55 | |
| Macedonia | | 500 00 | 40 00 | | 2 75 | 1 50 | | 1 25 | |
| Midway | | 250 00 | 20 00 | | 4 00 | 1 99 | | 1 05 | |
| Mt. Moriah | | 126 00 | | | | 25 00 | | 25 | |
| Mt. Gilead | | | | | | 50 00 | | 1 10 | 50 |
| New Hopeful | 9-15 '00 | 40 00 | 40 00 | 1 00 | 6 25 | 1 00 | | 5 00 | |
| New Macedonia | | | 25 00 | | | 50 00 | | 1 18 | |
| Olive Branch | | | | | | 75 00 | 2 30 | | |
| Oakland | | | | | | 50 00 | 2 50 | 50 | |
| Pleasant Grove | | 550 00 | | | | 1 00 | 1 00 | 8 00 | |
| Pleasant Grove | 1-18 '79 | | | | | 75 00 | 40 | | |
| Pleasant Hill | | | | | | 50 00 | | 70 | |
| Pine Grove | | 200 00 | | | | 55 00 | | 5 00 | |
| San Pedro | | | | | | 50 00 | 75 | 50 | 50 |
| Triumph | | 450 00 | | 21 00 | | 50 00 | 55 | 1 00 | |
| Totals | | \$2865 00 | \$ 218 65 | \$28 00 | \$26 68 | \$13 10 | \$12 73 | \$21 63 | \$ 3 69 |

Note—New Hopeful—State Missions, \$1. Ancilla—Home Missions, \$5; Foreign Missions, \$8; Graham's Home, \$10.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS

| CHURCHES | Superin- tendents | Teachers | Pupils | Volumes in Library | Expenses |
|----------------------------|----------------------|----------|--------|-----------------------|----------|
| Aucilla, two schools | 2 | 10 | 75 | 55 | \$ 20 00 |
| Brewer Lake | | | | | |
| Beulah | | | | | |
| Hopewell | | | | | |
| Live Oak | | | | | |
| Macedonia | 1 | 8 | 40 | | 6 50 |
| Midway | | | | | |
| Mt. Moriah | | | | | |
| Mt. Gilead | | | | | |
| New Hopeful | | | | | |
| New Macedonia | | | | | |
| Olive Branch | | | | | |
| Oakland | | | | | |
| Pleasant Grove | | | | | |
| Pleasant Hill | | | | | |
| Pine Grove | | | | | |
| San Pedro | | | | | |
| Triumph | 1 | 5 | 57 | | 5 00 |
| Totals | 4 | 18 | 172 | 55 | \$ 31 50 |

NOTE—Clerks of churches are requested to report Sunday Schools.

ASSOCIATIONAL LETTER.

Postoffice at
 We, the Baptist Church at..... to the.....
Association, send Christian
 salutation. We send the following named messengers to sit
 with you in council:

.....

Ministers Who Hold Membership With Us.—Ordained.

| Name. | Postoffice. |
|-------|-------------|
| | |
| | |
| | |

| Name. | Licensed. | Postoffice. |
|-------|-----------|-------------|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

STATISTICAL TABLE.

MEMBERSHIP.

| Increase This Year. | Decrease This Year. |
|--|---------------------|
| By Experience and Baptism... By Letter..... | |
| By Letter or Statement..... By Expulsion or Erasure.... | |
| By Restoration..... By Death..... | |
| Total Membership Last Year... Total Membership This Year.. | |

Officers of This Church and Societies.

| | Name. | Postoffice. |
|------------------------------------|-------|-------------|
| Pastor | | |
| Clerk | | |
| Sunday School Superintendent | | |
| Sunday School Secretary | | |
| President W. M. U. | | |
| Secretary W. M. U. | | |
| Value of Church Property | | |

BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

Sunday School Record.

Number of Schools
 Number of Teachers
 Number of Pupils
 Kind of Literature Used
 Number of Volumes in Library
 Baptisms This Year
 Expenses

FINANCIAL TABLE.

The Following Amounts Have Been Paid This Year

| | By Church. | Am't sent to Associational Missions during year. | State Missions. |
|---|------------|--|-----------------|
| Pastor's Salary... .. | | | |
| Building and Repairing..... | | | |
| Visiting Ministers. | | | |
| Sunday School Expenses.... | | | |
| Associational Missions | | | |
| State Missions | | | |
| Home Missions | | | |
| Orphans' Home. | | | |
| Foreign Missions... .. | | | |
| Aged Ministers' Relief Fund.. | | | |
| Total amount sent up during the year, \$..... | | | |

We send by our messengers the following amounts for:

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Minutes..... | Ministerial Education |
| Associational Expenses | Aged Ministers' |
| Associational Missions... .. | Orphanage..... |
| State Missions... .. | Foreign Missions..... |
| Home Missions..... | Total sent now..... |

Done by order of the.....Church
 in conference this the.....day of

Church Clerk.

Moderator.

CONSTITUTION OF THE MIDDLE FLORIDA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

Article 1. This Association shall be known by the name of The Middle Florida Baptist Association. The object of this Association shall be to conduct the work of missions, colportage, Sabbath school enterprises and other work that will tend to the spread of the Gospel.

Article 2. This Association shall be composed of white members chosen by the respective churches in its union, in the proportion of two members for each church of fifty or less, and one additional delegate for every twenty-five members over fifty. No church, however, shall have over four delegates.

Article 3. The letters sent by the churches at each session of the Association shall designate their respective members in full fellowship, those baptized, received by letter, restored, dismissed, excommunicated and dead since last session.

Article 4. Believing it to be proper, on account of the diversity of opinion among men as to the import of Scripture contained in the Old and New Testaments, to declare our belief and understanding thereof, we therefore append our belief in twelve Articles and present them with our minutes to the Baptist denomination.

Article 5. The Association, when convened, shall be governed by a regular and proper decorum. A Moderator and Clerk shall be chosen by the votes of the members present, who shall hold their offices until the next session of the body; and until their successors are elected.

The Moderator shall preside at the meetings of the Association.

The Clerk shall record the proceedings thereof and prepare them for the press.

Article 6. The Association thus organized shall have no power to lord over God's heritage, nor infringe upon the eternal rights of any church.

Article 7. Newly constituted churches may be admitted to this union on application by letter and delegates; and if, upon examination, found to be orthodox, shall be received by the Association and the right hand of fellowship extended to the delegates by the Moderator.

Article 8. The Association shall furnish the minutes of

their proceedings in proportion to the funds sent up for that purpose by the churches.

Article 9. The minutes of the Association shall be publicly read (and corrected, if necessary), and then signed by the Moderator and Clerk before adjournment.

Article 10. Any amendment or alteration of this Constitution may be made by the votes of two-thirds of the members present at any two successive regular meetings of the Association. All other matters of fellowship shall be decided by a majority vote. In matters of fellowship the Association must be a unit.

Article 11. The Association shall have power:

First, To provide for the general union of the churches.

Second, To give the churches advice in matters of difficulty.

Third, To inquire into the cause of any failing to be represented at the meeting of the Association.

Fourth, To withdraw all connection from any church or churches in this union that shall violate the rules of this Association, or shall deviate from the orthodox principles of the revealed Word of God.

Fifth, To appropriate the money contributed and sent up to the Association as specified by the churches, and when not specified it shall be appropriated to promote the best interests of the Master's cause.

Sixth, To adjourn to any future time and place they may deem most convenient to the churches in the union.

RULES OF DECORUM OF THE MIDDLE FLORIDA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

1. At every meeting of the Association the Moderator shall call the body to order and cause the Clerk to read the minutes of the previous Association.

2. The Moderator shall preserve order, and shall speak on any point of order with reference to the other members; and shall decide questions of order, subject to an appeal to the Association, when requested by two members.

3. The Moderator shall put all questions distinctly in this form: "As many as are in favor (as the question may be) say aye." And after the affirmative vote is taken, "As many as are of a contrary opinion say, No." If doubtful which voice is in the majority, it shall be decided by rising vote.

4. The Moderator shall appoint the committees except in cases of appointment by ballot.

5. In all cases of ballot the Moderator may vote. In all other cases he shall not vote, unless the Association be equally

divided, or unless his vote given to the minority will make the division equal. In that case the question shall be lost.

6. When any member is about to speak in debate he shall rise and address the Moderator.

7. If any member, while speaking or otherwise employed, transgresses the rules of decorum, the Moderator shall, or any member may, call him to order.

8. When two or more members shall rise at the same time, the Moderator shall decide who is first entitled to the floor.

9. No member shall indulge in unkind remarks in debate, nor shall any member speak more than twice on the same question without leave from the Association, nor more than once until every one desiring to speak shall have done so.

10. While any member is addressing the Association, it shall be the duty of the Moderator to suppress all private discourse that may be indulged in among the members, and require strict attention on the part of the audience.

11. When a motion is made and seconded it shall be stated by the Moderator before open for debate.

12. Every motion shall be reduced to writing if desired by any member of the Association.

13. After a motion is made and seconded it shall be deemed in possession of the Association, but may be withdrawn at any time before being discussed or amended.

14. When a question is under debate no motion shall be entertained unless to amend or refer it to a committee, for the previous question, or for adjournment.

15. A motion for adjournment shall always be in order, and decided without debate.

16. A member may call for a division of a question, when two or more distinct propositions are set forth, and when the substance will admit of a division.

17. Motions and amendments may be referred to a committee at the pleasure of the Association.

18. Every resolution shall receive two statements or readings in the Association previous to its passage. The first shall be for information; and the second when the decision of the Association is to be made.

19. The rules may be changed or amended at any full meeting of the Association.

20. The Association shall be opened and closed with prayer each day by the Moderator or by some other member.

21. All queries shall be fairly stated in writing and approved by two-thirds of the members present before they shall be acted on.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

Article 1. We believe in one only true and living God, and that there are three in the Godhead—the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost.

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

Article 3. We believe the doctrine of particular and eternal election.

Article 4. We believe in the doctrine of original sin.

Article 5. We believe in man's impotency to recover himself from the fallen state in which he is by nature, by his own free will and ability.

Article 6. We believe that we are justified in the sight of God only by the imputed righteousness of Christ.

Article 7. We believe that God's elect shall be called, regenerated and sanctified by the Holy Ghost.

Article 8. We believe that the saints shall persevere in grace, and never finally fall away.

Article 9. We believe that baptism and the Lord's Supper are the only ordinances of Jesus Christ; that nothing is baptism except immersion; that believers are the only subjects of this ordinance, and that none but baptized believers are entitled to partake of the Lord's Supper.

Article 10. We believe in a general resurrection of the dead and a general judgment.

Article 11. We believe the punishment of the wicked shall be everlasting and the joys of the righteous eternal.

Article 12. We believe that no minister has a right to administer the ordinances only such as are regularly called, and have come under the imposition of the hands of the presbytery.