

AMERICAN BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY
1100 S. GOODMAN ST.
ROCHESTER 20, NEW YORK

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE
TWENTIETH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Florida Baptist Association,

HELD WITH

NEW HOPE CHURCH, THOMAS COUNTY, GEO.

COMMENCING ON FRIDAY, OCT. 17, 1862.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1862.

THE FLORIDA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION convened this day in its Twentieth Annual Session, with New Hope Church, Thomas County, Georgia.

The Introductory Sermon was preached by Eld. R. Fleming, from 1 John, 4th chapter and 7th verse.

After an intermission the Association was called to order by Eld. W. B. Cooper, its former Moderator—Eld. W. Blewett, former Clerk, present.

Letters from the Churches were handed in and read.

Petitionary Letters were then called for:—One was presented from Harmony Church, Thomas County, and by vote of the Delegates present, was received as a constituent of this body.

Proceeded to the election of Moderator and Clerk, when Eld. W. B. Cooper was re-elected Moderator, and Eld. W. Blewett having resigned, Bro. T. J. Wombwell was elected Clerk.

Appointed Committees on the following subjects:

Preaching:—The Pastor and Deacons of New Hope Church, and Brothers Turner and Davis.

Finance:—Bros. Scott, Dekle and Dyson.

Associational Missions:—Elders Fleming, Manning and Lacy.

Sabbath Schools:—Elders Bailey, McKeown and Levy.

Business:—Eld. Smith, and Brothers Hay and Hartsfield.

On motion, a Committee on deceased Ministers and Deacons was appointed. Committee, Elders Smith, Blewett and McKeown.

Called for correspondents from sister Associations and none appeared.

Committee on Business recommended the same method as pursued last year; which was adopted.

On motion, the hour of meeting was fixed at 9½ o'clock, A. M.

Committee on Preaching report, that Eld. McKeown preach to-morrow morning, at 11 o'clock; Eld. Levy to close. Eld. N. A. Bailey to preach the Missionary Sermon on Sabbath, at 11 o'clock, A. M.

On motion, adjourned till 9½ o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Prayer by Elder Baker.

SATURDAY 18, 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ o'clock, A. M.

Association met. Sang a hymn; Prayer by Eld. Levy.
Minutes of yesterday's proceedings were read and approved.
Names of Delegates called and corrected.
Correspondents again called and none appeared.
Appointed Correspondents to sister Associations, viz:
Bowen:—Eld. W. Blewett and Brother C. N. Powell.
Bethel:—Eld. Smith, and Bros. Wombwell and Dyson.
Concord:—Elders Smith and Cooper.
Appointed Elder Blewett to write Letter of Correspondence.
Appointed the Association to meet with Indian Springs Church, Leon County, Florida, on Friday, before the Third Lord's day in October, 1863.
Reports were called.
Committee on Sabbath Schools reported. The report was recommended, and after being amended was adopted. (See Appendix B.)
Committee on Associational Missions reported. The report was recommended, but was again called up and adopted without amendment. (See Appendix C.)
Report of Executive Committee read and adopted. (See Appendix D.)
Committee on deceased Ministers and Deacons reported. Report adopted. (See Appendix E.)
Called for Treasurer's Report—recommended; after which it was again presented and adopted. (See Appendix G.)
On motion, *Resolved*, That all the Associational Funds sent up to this Session, be appropriated to the religious instruction of our Soldiers.
On motion, *Resolved*, That the funds appropriated by a former Resolution to the benefit of our soldiers, be left in the hands of the Executive Committee for their discretion in the immediate distribution thereof.
Committee on Finance reported. Report adopted. (See Appendix G.)
Committee on Preaching reported that Eld. Manning preach at 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ o'clock, P. M.
Adjourned for one hour.
Prayer by Eld. Smith.

2 O'clock, P. M.

Association met. Sang a hymn and proceeded to business.
On motion, the same Executive Committee which served the year closing with this session of the Association, were re-elected for the ensuing year.
On motion, proceeded to elect Ten Delegates to the State Convention, which meets with Mount Pleasant Church, Sawannee County, Fla., on Friday before the 4th Lord's Day in November. Bros. Cooper, Wombwell, Bailey, C. Smith, Fleming, Fuller, McKeown, Blewett, Dekle, and S. Alex. Smith, were elected.
On motion, *Resolved*, That as Religious newspapers we would recommend the *Christian Index*, published by our able and much esteemed brother, Eld. Samuel Boykin, at Macon, Ga.; also, the *Banner & Baptist*, ably edited by Eld. H. C. Hornaday, Atlanta, Ga. Each of these papers gives the war news fully every week, also, much highly important religious instruction.
On motion, *Resolved*, That the thanks of this body be tendered to the brethren and friends in the neighborhood, for their kindness and hospitality in entertaining the Delegates to the Association.
On motion, *Resolved*, That we have 500 copies of the Minutes printed and distributed among the Churches, and the Clerk be authorized to draw on the Treasurer for the necessary amount to do this.
Resolved, That the Clerk receive the usual fee of twenty-five dollars.
On motion, proceeded to elect a Treasurer, when Eld. B. S. Fuller was unanimously re-elected.

Letter of Correspondence called for, read and adopted. (See Appendix A.)
On motion, *Resolved*, That the funds now in the hands of Bro. Marvin, former Treasurer of the former Educational Committee, be turned over to the Treasurer of this Association, to be held for the purpose of educating young Ministers.
On motion, *Resolved*, That the funds collected on the Sabbath, be turned over to the Executive Committee, to be by them applied to Army Missions.
On motion, the Report of the Committee on the Tallahassee Church, adopted last year, be adopted as the report of this year, with the change in the figures as it appears in these Minutes. (See Appendix H.)
Bro. Bailey was charged with the funds for the relief of the Tallahassee Church.
Committee on Preaching report that Elder O. E. McKeown preach the Introductory Sermon at our next Session, Eld. A. M. Manning, Alternate; Eld. C. Smith preach the Missionary Sermon, Eld. R. Fleming, Alternate.
On motion, adjourned to meet with the Church at Indian Springs, Leon County, Fla., on Friday before the 3rd Lord's Day in October, 1863.
Prayer by Eld. Bailey. Benediction by the Moderator.
T. J. WOMBWELL, Clerk. W. B. COOPER, Moderator.

SUNDAY, OCT. 19, 1862.

The stand was filled according to appointment. The Word was preached with earnestness and ability to large and attentive audiences. A collection was taken up amounting to \$106.00, which by a Resolution of the Association, will be applied to Army Missions.
T. J. W., Clerk.

(A.) LETTER OF CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Associations with whom we Correspond:

DEAR BRETHREN:—Our session has been small; more than a usual number of Churches failing to represent themselves, but our meeting has been one of the most perfect harmony and good feeling. We are, however, somewhat disappointed in finding no messenger with us from your bodies. We hope that Associational intercourse however, will be more attended to in future than it has been for the last several years. We have all been remiss in reference to these fraternal associations. May God's blessing rest upon us all.
T. J. WOMBWELL, Clerk. W. B. COOPER, Moderator.

(B.) REPORT OF THE COM. ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

The Committee to whom the subject of Sabbath Schools was referred, beg leave to Report, That as far as they can learn, Sabbath Schools receive but very little attention from the Churches within the bounds of this Association. It is much to be regretted, that so little interest is manifested for the early moral training of the rising generation. God will hold us responsible for the sad neglect, and we cannot expect the blessings of Grace will abound in the Churches, while they fail to employ the appointed means of bringing up the young in the "nurture and admonition of the Lord." The knowledge of God and His Word and Works, are requisite to a correct faith; and how can we expect this faith to exist, when we say by our acts, that it is unimportant that they should know these things, and encourage them to neglect the study of the Scriptures. How few of the present rising generation will we be able to say of them that, "from a child thou hast known the Scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto Salvation"? We would earnestly recommend every Church to meet every Sabbath, and form classes of themselves and their children, and spend a portion of the day in studying God's Word.
Respectfully submitted,
N. A. BAILEY, Chairman.

(C.) REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS.

The Committee on Missions would make the following Report. That they are fully persuaded by the light afforded from the Scriptures of Divine Truth, that the cause of Missions is the cause of God, and it is the duty of the Churches of Christ to patronize and sustain the Missionary cause, and thus to "do good unto all men as they have opportunity, especially unto the household of Faith." But as the ports of the Confederate States are closed by blockade, the offspring of an unjustifiable, cruel, and tyrannical war, waged against us by an infatuated Northern Abolition influence, and by wicked men in high places, we feel that the opportunity under such circumstances is cut off, and we cannot with certainty, in this state of affairs, attempt to aid the cause of Missions in any of the foreign fields. We regret this state of things, especially as we have felt, and do feel, a deep interest in the African Missions. We hope, however, that God in His Mercy will soon remove these obstructions, and that we shall be able to send "the glorious Gospel of the blessed God," "unbound" into any portion of the earth now "filled with the habitations of cruelty."

We would recommend for the present, that the funds available for Associational Missions, be appropriated to the cause in our own country, and especially in the destitute places in our Association. We would therefore strongly urge the appointment of some one or two ministering brethren to travel and preach, exhort and pray in the feeble churches, and in destitute sections, as they deem most prudent. And finally, may our hearts burn with holy enthusiasm to be fellow-helpers to the truth, and may that glorious day speedily arrive when there shall be none to hurt or destroy in all God's holy mountain. All of which is respectfully submitted by your Committee.

ROBERT FLEMING, Chairman.

(D.) REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Your Committee report nothing done within the bounds of this Association during the past year. No Missionary has been in the field. No funds have been contributed to aid in the objects contemplated by this Association. The reasons why we have had nothing to do the past year, is probably attributable to the distracted condition of our bleeding country. Respectfully submitted.

B. S. FULLER, Chairman.

(E.) Report of the Com. on Deceased Ministers and Deacons.

Your Committee appointed to report on deceased Ministers and Deacons, beg leave to submit the following:—Through the kind Providence of God, they have no deaths among the Watchmen of Zion to record. God has removed none from the small band engaged in the responsible work of feeding his flock in this Association, and while we rejoice over this, our hearts are made to mourn over the vacancies caused by the removal of three Deacons from their labors of love in the Church below, to enjoy the rest that remains for the people of God. We would therefore, as an Association, bear our testimony to their moral worth, and in recording their virtues, hold them up as examples of those, who, having used the office of a Deacon well, have purchased to themselves a good degree and great boldness, in the Faith which is in Christ Jesus.

Deacon Jno. M. CARSON. This dear and faithful brother, so long and favorably known to the brethren of this Association, finished his course during the past year, and has entered into the pleasures at the right hand of God. Up to the beginning of the ill health which resulted in his death, he was a regular attendant upon the annual meetings of this body, where his liberality and piety commended him unto the affectionate esteem of his brethren. His great desire was to see the King-

dom of his Master prosper, and whatever he judged conducive of this he was ready to help forward by word and deed. He was firm and decided in his Faith of the tenets which distinguish us as a denomination. He made no compromises with error, either in or out of his Church. As a neighbor he was kind and hospitable; a fond and indulgent parent; an affectionate husband, a kind master; in a word, he was a Christian. He was baptized in the year 1823, and had therefore followed his Master 34 years. He was chosen Deacon of the Indian Spring Church, Sept. 3, 1842. It pleased God to spare him to witness the baptism of his son and daughter, and then soon after, the wearied pilgrim fell asleep in Jesus. One of his last remarks being, "I want to go home, I want to be at rest."

Deacon S. B. TIMMONS, Concordia Church. This Brother professed religion in early life, and thus gave to the service of his Lord the best portion of the existence loaned him by the Master. He held the office of a Deacon six or seven years, the duties of which he discharged with an eye single to the glory of God. He was a man who possessed the love of his brethren, and his place cannot be easily filled. When the call was made for patriots to rally in defence of their country, he responded, and at the time of his death was a member of the 5th Florida Regiment. He fell by disease, contracted in the discharge of the duties which devolve upon a soldier. He died in the Hospital at Knoxville, Tenn. The testimony of his Pastor is, that in his life were blended all the virtues that constitute a true follower of Jesus Christ. His death has cast a gloom over all the community. He died away from home and family! No wife was present to wipe the death drops from his brow; no children were present to receive his farewell blessing, yet he died not alone. The Saviour whom he served was with him, and the light of His countenance cheered him through the valley of death. He leaves a wife and large family to mourn his loss, and rejoice over his great gain.

RICHARD THOMAS, Deacon of Friendship Church. This Brother died during the latter part of April. He made a profession of religion late in life, and at the time remarked, that he had spent much of his life in the service of sin, but now, God helping him he would serve his Master. It is the testimony of his brethren, that this promise to his Lord was kept faithfully; and though he had served but two years as Deacon, he gave evidence that he possessed the character of a true Deacon, as laid down by the Apostle to Timothy. In all the varied relations of a citizen, Christian, and Deacon, he was faithful. Your Committee, therefore, in view of these facts would suggest the adoption of the following Resolutions:

Resolved, That this Association submit with resignation to the will of God, in the removal of these brethren, and pray that he will raise up to the Churches thus bereaved, other Deacons who will supply their places and fulfill their duties.

2nd. That we tender to the families of the departed ones, our Christian sympathy and prayers, in this their time of affliction; but would remind them of the blessed truth, that those who sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.

The facts in relation to Deacon ISAAC TOWNSEND'S death, have not been received. Respectfully submitted. C. SMITH, Chairman.

(F.) REPORT OF FINANCIAL COMMITTEE.

Your Committee on Finance, beg leave to Report. That the several Churches composing this body, so far as represented, have sent up the following amounts to-wit:

Minute Fund	34 15
Associational Fund	249 50
Associational Missions	69 65
Army Missions	57 00
African Missions	6 25
Indian Missions	30 00

Aggregate, \$406 55
All of which is respectfully submitted. N. T. SCOTT, Chairman.

(G.) TREASURER'S REPORT.**H. S. Fuller, in Account with Florida Baptist Association.**

1861.		Dr.	
October 19.	To amount received of S. Alex. Smith, former Treasurer,	\$686	00
" "	To amount received of Finance Committee,	210	00
" "	To amount received of Mrs. Thompson	1	00
" "	To amount received of Blacks at Association, (P. M.)	1	28
" "	To amount received of N. A. Bailey, (Foreign Missions,)	3	00
" "	To amount collected at Stand,	11	41
" "	To amount collected of Concordia Church,	1	25 = \$913 94
		CONTRA.	
" "	By amount paid G. W. Bostick, per order Association,	150	00
" "	By amount paid B. S. Fuller,	100	00
" "	By amount paid Clerk for Minutes, &c.,	50	00
" "	By amount paid Foreign Missions,	93	95
" "	By amount paid Domestic Missions,	84	69
" "	By balance on hand,	436	00
			\$913 94

Respectfully submitted,

B. S. FULLER, Treasurer.**(H.) REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON TALLAHASSEE CHURCH.**

The Committee on that portion of the Executive Committee's Report which relates to the Tallahassee Church, beg leave to report the following:—Your Committee would state, that upon examination of Documents, it is ascertained that the indebtedness of the Church at present, without including the last year's interest, amounts to \$1,264 24, and that we have in cash and subscriptions including the subscription of the Convention, \$872 00, which you will perceive, leaves a deficit of \$392 24. Your Committee would suggest that the Delegates to the Convention be instructed to present to the Convention the above statement, and request of that body the appointment of a Committee to have an interview or correspondence with the creditors and request of them indulgence until the close of our national difficulties, for it is evident to every business man that it will be impossible to make cash collections under the existing circumstances. We would also suggest the propriety of soliciting of the subscribers their individual notes, payable when our present war shall close, and that a Committee be made to attend immediately to the matter. All of which is respectfully submitted.

B. S. FULLER, Chairman.**LIST OF MINISTERS OF FLORIDA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION AND THEIR POST OFFICES.**

1. N. A. BAILEY.....Monticello, Fla.	11. O. E. McKEOWN....Quincy, Fla.	
2. W. BLEWETT.....Glasgow, Ga.	12. A. M. MANNING....Monticello, Fla.	
3. G. W. BOSTICK.....Sopchoppy, Fla.	13. Z. W. WHEELER....Waukenah, Fla.	
4. W. W. CHILDERS, Tallahassee, Fla.	14. H. WHITEHURST, Monticello, Fla.	
5. W. B. COOPER.....Monticello, Fla.	15. JAS. PAGE, (Col.) Tallahassee, Fla.	
6. R. FLEMING.....Thomasville, Ga.	16. C. SMITH.....Thomasville, Ga.	
7. B. S. FULLER.....Monticello, Fla.	LICENTIATES.	
8. J. B. LACY.....Thomasville, Ga.	17. W. T. REVELL....Sopchoppy, Fla.	
9. ROBERT LEVY....Tallahassee, Fla.	18. T. W. TERRELL....Duncanville, Ga.	
10. H. S. LINTON.....Monticello, Fla.	19. T. J. WOMBWELL, Thomasville, Ga.	

ARTICLES OF FAITH OF FLORIDA BAPT. ASSOCIATION.

1. We believe in one only true and living God, and that there are three persons in the God-head—the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost.
2. We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the Word of God, and the only rule of faith and practice.
3. We believe in the doctrine of particular and eternal election.
4. We believe in the doctrine of original sin.
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.
6. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God, only by the imputed righteousness of Christ.
7. We believe that God's elect shall be called, regenerated and sanctified by the Holy Ghost.
8. We believe that the saints shall persevere in grace, and never finally fall away.
9. We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Jesus Christ—that nothing is Baptism except immersion—that believers are the only subjects of this ordinance; and that none but baptised believers are entitled to partake of the Lord's Supper.
10. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and a general judgment.
11. We believe that the punishment of the wicked will be everlasting, and the joys of the righteous will be eternal.
12. We believe that no Minister has the right to administer the ordinances, only such as are regularly called, and have come under the imposition of the hands of the Presbytery.

W. B. COOPER, Moderator.**T. J. WOMBWELL, Clerk.**

[NOTE.—In addition to the funds as set down in the Statistical Table, Concordia Church sent up \$11 85 for Associational Missions; Ebenezer \$20 00 for Army Missions and \$20 00 for Indian Missions; Harmony, (Thomas County,) \$19 00 for Associational Missions; Liberty \$31 80 for Associational Missions, and \$17 00 for Army Missions; Monticello \$6 25 for African Missions.

From the difficulty in procuring paper of the right size, I have been compelled to leave out the Decorum, besides reducing the margin to the pages.]—Clerk.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES.	COUNTY AND STATE.	POST OFFICE.	PASTORS.	DELEGATES.	Baptized.	Recd. by Let.	Restored.	Dis. by Letter.	Excom'nt'd.	Dead.	Whites.	Blacks.	Total.	Minute Fund.	Assoc'n Fund.	Substn of Meeting.
1 Enon,	Leon, Fla.,	Tallahassee,	Levy, Shackelford,	Eld. R. Levy, J. Crow,	0	0	1	0	2	0	16	0	16	1.50		2
2 Aucilla.	Jefferson, Fla.,	Waukenaah,	Not represented.	"												
3 Bethpage.	Gadsden, Fla.,	Waukenaah,	McKeown,	N. T. Scott, A. Bowen,	20	8	1	2	0	2	64	3	67	2.50		4
4 Concordia,	Jefferson, Fla.,	Concord,	Cooper,	Eld. W. B. Cooper, T. Flay,	0	0	0	5	0	0	32	78	110	1.00		1
5 Ebenezer,	Jefferson, Fla.,	Monticello,	Shackelford,	T. P. Hartsfield, A. J. Whitehurst*	0	0	0	0	0	1	37	35	72	1.00		2
6 Elizabeth,	Jefferson, Fla.,	Monticello,	Blewett,	S. Forcst, N. Turner,	4	2	0	0	0	1	53	19	72	2.00	39.75	2
7 Friendship,	Thomas, Ga.,	Thomasville	Baker,	Eld. R. Fleming, T. Dyson,	0	5	0	0	0	0	18	0	18	1.00		2 & 4
8 Harmony,	"	"	Ardis,	Not represented.												1
9 Indian Springs	Madison, Fla.,	Monticello,	Cooper,	"											43.00	2 & 4
10 Liberty,	Leon, Fla.,	Micoankie,	Blewett,	Eld. W. Blewett, C. A. Davis,*	2	1	0	0	0	0	37	26	63	2.00		3
11 Lake Jackson,	Brooks, Ga.,	Grooverville	McKeown,	Represented by Letter.	0	0	0	1	0	0	23	34	57	1.50	3.50	2
12 Monticello,	Leon, Fla.,	Tallahassee,	Bailey,	Eld. N. A. Bailey, J. M. Marvin*	12	2	0	0	0	0	56	134	184	2.00	73.00	1 & 3
13 Mount Bezor,	Jefferson, Fla.,	Monticello,	Bostick,	John Lewis,	0	2	0	1	2	0	23	1	24	75		1
14 Mount Elon,	Wakulla, Fla.,	Sopchoppy,		Not represented.												
15 Mount Hope,	Wakulla, Fla.,	Sopchoppy,		"												
16 Mount Gilead,	Jefferson, Fla.,	Beasley,		"												
17 New Hope,	Thomas, Ga.,	Thomasville	Blewett,	J. G. Deklo, C. N. Powell,*	8	2	0	0	0	0	40	23	63	2.00	20.00	1
18 Oak Grove,	Leon, Fla.,	Duncanville,	Manning,	Wm. Murray, J. J. L. Miles*,	0	2	0	2	0	1	32	12	44	2.00	20.00	4
19 Ochlockonee,	Thomas, Ga.,	Duncanville,	Cooper,	Not represented.												2
20 Providence,	Gadsden, Fla.,	Quincy,	McKeown,	Eld. O. E. McKeown,	12	3	0	0	1	0	76	5	81	2.40	29.25	3
21 Quitman,	Brooks, Ga.,	Quitman,	Gaulden,	Not represented.												3
22 Shiloh,	Madison, Fla.,	Sandy Ford,	Ardis,	"												3
23 Olive,	Thomas, Ga.,	Glasgow,	Lacy,	Eld. A. M. Manning,	0	1	0	0	0	0	11	0	11	2.50	5.00	2
24 Thomasville,	Thomas, Ga.,	Thomasville	Smith,	Eld. C. Smith, T. J. Wombwell,*	14	8	1	17	5	6	81	116	197		16.00	1 & 3
25 Bethsaida,	Wakulla, Fla.,	Shell Point,		Not represented.												
26 Bethlehem,	Wakulla, Fla.,	Benhaden,		"												
27 New Port,	Wakulla, Fla.,	New Port,		"												
28 Tallahassee,	Leon, Fla.,	Tallahassee,	Fuller,	"												
					63	36	3	28	10	11	593	356	1079	24.15	249.50	

* Absentees.
 \$60.00 was contributed by Colored Members.