

MINUTES

OF THE

Florida Baptist Association

HELD WITH

OAK GROVE CHURCH,

LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA,

October 15th and 16th, 1869.

OFFICERS:

WILEY J. BLEWETT, MODERATOR,
THOMASVILLE, GA.

JAMES M. RUSHIN, CLERK,
BOSTON, GA.

Macon, Georgia:

J. W. BURKE & CO., PRINTERS, STATIONERS AND BINDERS.

1869.

MINUTES.

LEON COUNTY, FLA., *October 15th, 1869.*

The Florida Baptist Association this day convened with the Oak Grove church, Leon county, Florida.

The Principal and Alternate appointed at the last Association to preach the Introductory Sermon, being unable to perform that duty on account of ill health, Elder James McBryde, of the Mercer Association, on invitation, preached from 2d Cor., chap. 5, first clause of the 14th verse—"For the love of Christ constraineth us."

After an intermission of one hour, the Association met, and was called to order by Elder Wiley J. Blewett, former Moderator; Elder C. D. Campbell, Clerk.

Letters from Churches were handed in and read, and the names of delegates enrolled.

Proceeded to the election of Moderator and Clerk, when Brother B. F. Wardlaw moved that Elder Wiley J. Blewett, the present incumbent, be re-elected by acclamation, as he contemplates removing from our midst, and in all probability will not be with us any more in our Associational meetings.

Elected James M. Rashin, Clerk.

Correspondents being called for, Elder James McBryde, of the Mercer Association, and Elder Geo. T. Hurst, of the Bowen, presented themselves, and were cordially received, and invited to seats among us; also Elder J. S. Baker, of the Mercer, presented himself as Agent of the Domestic Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, was received, and invited to a seat among us.

Appointed the following Committees:—

On Preaching—Elder A. M. Manning, pastor of this Church; Brethren W. S. Murray, T. B. Massey, S. Forest, and E. E. Barclay.

On Sabbath Schools—Elder C. D. Campbell, Brethren B. F. Wardlaw, and F. M. Bunker.

On Missions—Elder A. M. Manning, Brethren W. H. Scruggs, and S. Forrest.

On Deceased Ministers and Deacons—Elder H. Z. Ardis, Brethren W. Head, and J. Averitt.

On Finance—Brethren B. F. Wardlaw, J. Bently, and F. M. Groover.

Committee on Preaching report—Elder J. S. Baker, of the Mercer, to preach to-morrow at 11 o'clock; followed by Elder H. Z. Ardis.

On motion, adjourned until to-morrow morning, 9 o'clock. Prayer by Elder C. D. Campbell.

Saturday, October 16th, 1869.

Met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Brother W. Head.

On motion, the regular order of business was suspended, to consider the propriety of amending the Rules of Decorum. The subject was referred to the following special committee, to report at the next Association—Brother B. F. Wardlaw, and Elders H. Z. Ardis and C. D. Campbell.

Elected as delegates to the Florida Convention—Elders H. Z. Ardis, B. S. Fuller, A. M. Manning, A. B. Campbell, C. D. Campbell, W. B. Cooper, W. J. Blewett, and Brethren W. H. Scruggs, W. J. Carroll, B. F. Wardlaw, and James M. Rushin.

The Report of the Committee appointed at the last Association, to offer correspondence to the Ocklocknee Primitive Baptist Association, was called for, when Elder B. S. Fuller, one of the committee reported that they had been unable as yet to discharge the duty assigned them.

On motion, the committee was continued.

Called for reports of Standing Committees.

The report of the Committee on Sabbath Schools was read, and after remarks by a number of brethren, showing an increased interest in the subject, and a high appreciation of the advantages of Sunday Schools, was adopted.

Moved, that the regular order of business be suspended; That the Financial Committee be instructed to report the amount necessary to employ a missionary in the bounds of

our Association, and also apportion and specify that amount among the Churches.

On motion, the regular order of business was further suspended, that Brother W. Head might offer the following resolution—

Resolved, "That we recommend to the several churches in our bounds to assemble at their respective places of worship the Saturday before the second Sunday in December, and observe it as a day of fasting and prayer to God, that he may raise up and qualify preachers, so that the whole of our bounds may be fully occupied; and that the pastors be requested to preach, previous to that day, to their several churches, from the words of our Lord, found in Matthew ix. 37, 38," which was adopted.

Committee on Preaching report, Elder Geo. T. Hurst, of the Bowen, to preach at 2 o'clock p.m.; followed by Elder W. B. Cooper.

On motion, the petition of Valdosta church, for dismission from this body, was granted, and letter ordered.

Took recess for dinner.

AFTERNOON.

Association convened.

The Report of the Committee on Deceased Ministers and Deacons was adopted. (See *Appendix*.)

On motion, the regular order of business was suspended, and Elder J. S. Baker requested to lead in prayer, in behalf of Churches bereaved of an unusual number of their ministers and deacons, during the past Associational year.

The Report of the Committee on Missions was read, and adopted. (See *Appendix*.)

The Report of the Committee on Finance was read, and after some discussion, was re-committed, amended, and ultimately adopted. (See *Appendix*.)

The Report of the Executive Committee was read, and adopted. (See *Appendix*.)

On motion of Elder C. D. Campbell, an Auditing Committee of three was appointed, to audit the Treasurer's account. Elders C. D. Campbell, A. M. Manning, and Bro-

E. E. Barclay, were appointed that committee, and upon whose recommendation the Treasurer's report was adopted. (See Appendix.)

Proceeded to elect an Executive Committee, as follows:—Elders A. B. Campbell, A. M. Manning, and Brethren S. Forrest, J. G. Dekle, and — Beverly.

Elected Elder A. M. Manning, Treasurer.

Moved by Elder H. Z. Ardis: "That immediately after the 11 o'clock sermon to-morrow, Elder J. S. Baker be allowed the opportunity of presenting the claims of the Domestic Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Committee on Preaching report, Elder A. B. Campbell to preach the Missionary Sermon to-morrow, at 11 o'clock; followed by Elder H. Z. Ardis. Elder C. D. Campbell to preach in the afternoon; followed by Elder W. J. Blewett.

Appointed the following Correspondents—

To the Bowen Association—Elders A. B. Campbell, A. M. Manning, and Brother A. Spears.

To the Mercer Association—Elders W. J. Blewett, J. H. Campbell, B. S. Fuller, H. Z. Ardis, A. M. Manning, and Brethren W. H. Scruggs, John Clark, J. G. Dekle, B. F. Wardlaw, E. E. Barclay, E. W. Stephens, and J. Bently.

Appointed the next session of the Association with Summerhill church, Thomas county, Georgia, ten miles east of Thomasville, and four miles north of Boston, Atlantic and Gulf Railroad; to commence Friday before the third Lord's day in October, 1870.

Appointed Elder H. Z. Ardis to preach the Introductory Sermon at the next Association; Elder A. M. Manning, Alternate.

Resolved, "That the thanks of this body be tendered to the brethren and friends of this community, for the hospitable and Christian entertainment extended to it," which was agreed to.

On motion, the Clerk was appointed to incorporate in the minutes a corresponding letter to sister Associations.

The practice of writing circular letters being revived, Elder B. S. Fuller was appointed to write such a letter for the next Association, choosing his own subject.

Moved, to have a number of the minutes printed, proportional to the amount sent up for that purpose from the

Churches; and that the Clerk be allowed \$30 for his services, which was agreed to.

On motion, adjourned to meet as above appointed.

Prayer by Elder Wiley J. Blewett.

Sunday, October 17th, 1869.

The services to-day were in accordance with the arrangements made on yesterday, all of which, we trust, being such as will redound to the glory of our God, and greatly to the advancement of his cause in our midst.

CORRESPONDING LETTER.

To the Associations with whom we correspond.

DEAR BRETHREN—We are very grateful to acknowledge the reception of messengers from abroad. We had the pleasure of meeting at our session with Elder James McBryde, from the Mercer, and Elder Geo. T. Hurst, from the Bowen Association; and we hope, if the Lord will, to reciprocate this fraternal intercourse at your next sessions, and continue thus to do, so long as opportunity and circumstances will allow.

Having nothing of more than ordinary interest to communicate, we close by assurances of our fraternal love.

WILEY J. BLEWETT, Moderator.

JAMES M. RUSHIN, Clerk.

APPENDIX.

(A.)

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

The committee, to whom was referred the subject of Sunday Schools, are gratified to notice and report the great improvement among the Churches in this important department of Christian exertion. The letters of many of the Churches communicate information, which shows that the duty assigned their delegates at the last Association, of organizing these schools, has not been neglected. Instead of six or eight schools in the entire Association, as heretofore have been reported, there are no less than thirteen. Some of these have not reported the statistics of their schools—the number of officers, teachers, pupils, etc., and the amount of funds raised and expended, or still in hand, for the benefit of these schools—as it is desirable that they should do. We respectfully call the attention of the Churches to this point. There are, however, no reports of Sunday Schools from some of the Churches, though it is hoped this is owing to the carelessness of the Clerks of Churches, while it is feared it may be owing to the fact that there are no schools under their patronage and support. We earnestly beg, if this fear be well founded, that the Association will take pains to ascertain which these Churches are, and notice them in some way calculated to stir them up to the performance of this duty. Let the published minutes of our body carry an exhortation to them which shall stand before them the entire year; let the Moderator of the Association call the attention of the delegates of such Churches to their delinquency. Then, let the prayers of this entire body be given to those Churches during the Associational year. By these means, it is hoped, that they will be stimulated to arouse themselves and work. Your committee recommend, in conclusion, that the minutes of the Association shall contain, either a separate statistical table for the Sunday Schools, showing the items hinted at above, and

others if needed, or, that there be other columns added to the present table for this purpose.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

CHAS. D. CAMPBELL, Chairman.

(B.)

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON DECEASED MINISTERS AND DEACONS.

It becomes our painful duty to record the departure of our Brethren, W. H. Jordan, S. H. Linton, R. H. Shackelford, and R. F. Stubbs, Ministers of the Gospel. These brethren for years had labored with us in the vineyard of our Master. It has pleased the Great Head of the Church to call hence these brethren, and we are reminded to be also ready. In view of the demise of God's ministers in our midst, and the fewness of our numbers, we would renew the suggestion of last year, to pray the Lord of the Harvest to send laborers into his harvest. Of the Deacons, we mourn the loss of Brethren Whitaker and R. J. Groover. They used the office of a Deacon well, and purchased to themselves a good degree and great boldness in the faith. And lastly, and recently, our Brother, James M. Marvin, has suddenly, and in the midst of his usefulness, been called from us. The Church of which he was an officer will greatly miss the efficient aid he rendered. While we mourn the loss of these brethren, we would bow in submission to the Divine will.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

H. Z. ARDIS, Chairman.

(C.)

REPORT ON MISSIONS.

Your Committee on Missions submit the following Report. First, from such information as we have had, we believe that both our Domestic and Foreign missions are in a more prosperous condition than they were at the time of our last report. Brethren, we should remember

them, and labor to sustain them with our money as well as our prayers. Remember the destitution of our loved Sunny South. Our Domestic Board is zealously and earnestly, we trust, engaged in a work and labor of love, in supplying and filling up, according to its ability, yea, and beyond its ability, such places in all the South as the Macedonian cry for help arises from. Shall we then not remember that such labors are restricted by the want of means. May God open the hearts of all our people, and give to them a ready and willing mind to work in the cause of the Lord, and open and willing hearts, will make the purses of brethren open wide; for willing hearts will devise liberal things for the Lord, and having once devised will perform. Think, too, of the self-sacrificing missionaries in foreign lands, who have left all to carry the Gospel of God to benighted and perishing sinners.

But while we would have all to remember our Boards, we would have none to forget our Associational missions. This is in our midst, and involves the interest of this body. Some progress has been made during our past year. Yet how many Churches are reported without pastors. To us it is saddening, truly saddening, that there should be one left destitute. Brethren, what is the cause of this destitution? Some may say it is God's judgment. Our esteemed and loved brethren, Elders McKeon, Levy, Linton, Shackelford, Stubbs, and Jordan, have all been called from their labors on earth, to the enjoyment of eternal rest, and all have gone from us in a brief space of time. And when again we turn our eyes, we behold other loved and greatly esteemed brethren, worn down by toil and disease, and are, therefore, just quitting the watch-towers of our loved Zion, to-wit, Elders J. B. Lacy and W. J. Blewett, and soon, too, will the warning voices of Elders J. H. Campbell, B. S. Fuller, W. W. Childers, and H. Z. Ardis be heard no more. Time is fast making its inroads upon them; their heads are whitening for the tomb. Then again, we have lost to a great extent the labors of one who has been invited to a field of labor where he could be better sustained; and another has entered the law to sustain his family; and a few others are still in the school-room, because our Churches can not or will not support them properly.

Shall our Churches die out, and our destitution remain

unsupplied? May our Heavenly Father forbid; and may earnest and zealous prayers go up to a throne of grace from all parts of our Association, for more laborers to go into the harvest. And whilst we pray for more laborers, let us sustain, and sustain liberally, such as are already thrusting in the sickles to the reaping of the harvest.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. M. MANNING, Chairman.

(D.)

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

The Committee on Finance report—

Associational Fund.....	\$180 20
Minute Fund.....	57 10
Foreign Missions.....	13 50
Domestic Missions.....	28 75
Associational Missions.....	52 20
J. B. Lacy.....	30 50
J. S. Baker.....	1 00
Sabbath Contributions for Associational Missions...	59 15
Sabbath Contributions for Domestic Mission Board,	
Southern Baptist Convention	Cash 34 00
Sabbath Contributions for Domestic Mission Board,	
Southern Baptist Convention.....	Subscriptions 29 50
Subscriptions for Association Missions.....	235 00

In conformity to special instructions, we would recommend that \$500 be raised by the next Association, for the support of a missionary in our bounds, and that amount be apportioned among the Churches, upon the basis of so much per member, which we find by calculation to be forty cents per member.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

B. F. WARDLAW, Chairman.

A foot report

(E.)

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Your committee beg leave to report that they had a meeting, November, 1868, and it was proposed to procure the services of Brother Tomkies, as missionary, but failed in our efforts. Your Board then applied to the Domestic Mission Board for a missionary, and also failed to procure one. Not knowing of any one that could be procured to act in the bounds of the Association as missionary, it was, on May 25th, suggested that the services of Brother A. B. Campbell could be procured; and on application to him, he consented to serve for a time, and entered on the discharge of his duties about the 1st of July, and continued until the last of August, at the rate of \$60 per month. Your committee would refer you to the report of Brother A. B. Campbell, as to the amount of services rendered by him.

Respectfully submitted.

W. B. COOPER, Chairman.

(F.)

TREASURER'S REPORT.

W. H. SCRUGGS, Treasurer, in account with
the Florida Baptist Association.

Dr.

Oct. 19, 1868. To amount received of B. S. Fuller, former Treasurer.....	\$157 25
Oct. 19, 1868. To amount received of Financial Committee.....	257 00
Subscriptions.....	330 00
Received of Jesse Averitt.....	20 00
One Gold Pin.....	
	<hr/>
	\$764 25

Cr.

Oct. 19, 1868. Cash paid, J. H. Campbell.....	\$10 00
Oct. 20, 1868. Cash paid, C. D. Campbell.....	30 00
1869. Cash paid, J. B. Lacy.....	16 25
1869. Cash paid, J. J. Toon, for Printing Minutes.	58 25
1869. Cash paid, C. D. Campbell, extra charge.....	5 76
April 29, 1869. Cash paid, J. Campbell.....	5 30
July 26, 1869. Cash paid, A. B. Campbell, as mis- sionary.....	60 00
Cash paid, A. B. Campbell, as missionary.....	60 00
Cash paid, for Expressing, Registering, Stamps.....	1 75
Amount of Unpaid Subscriptions.....	225 00
Amount of one note.....	100 00
Amount of cash on hand.....	191 94
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	\$764 25

Which is respectfully submitted.

W. H. SCRUGGS, Treasurer.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

OF

THE FLORIDA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

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

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

III. We believe in the doctrine of particular and eternal election.

IV. We believe in the doctrine of original sin.

V. 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.

VI. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God only by the imputed righteousness of Christ.

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

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

IX. 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 baptized believers are entitled to partake of the Lord's Supper.

X. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, and a general judgment.

XI. We believe that the punishment of the wicked will be everlasting, and the joys of the righteous will be eternal.

XII. 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.

WILEY J. BLEWETT, Moderator.

JAMES M. RUSHIN, Clerk.

MINISTERS

OF

THE FLORIDA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

H. Z. Ardis *My Pastor - Mr. P.* Madison, Fla.
Wiley J. Blewett..... Thomasville, Ga.
W. W. Bostick..... Rose Head, Taylor Co., Fla.
G. W. Bostick..... Crawfordville, Waukalla Co., Fla.
W. B. Cooper..... Station 3, P. & G. R. R., Jefferson Co., Fla.
J. H. Campbell..... Thomasville, Thomas Co., Ga.
A. B. Campbell..... Thomasville, Thomas Co., Ga.
C. D. Campbell..... Quincy, Fla.
W. W. Childers..... Tallahassee, Fla.
B. S. Fuller..... Monticello, Fla.
R. P. Green..... Quincy, Fla.
G. W. Hall..... Sopchoppy, Waukalla Co., Fla.
J. B. Lacy..... Thomasville, Ga.
A. M. Manning..... Monticello, Fla.
J. Pigot..... Crawfordville, Waukalla Co., Fla.
C. Smith..... Madison, Fla.
A. C. Stephenson..... Boston, Ga.

LICENTIATE.

W. Head..... Rose Head, Taylor Co. Fla.

TABLE OF STATISTICS.

CHURCHES.	COUNTY AND STATE.	POST-OFFICES. PASTORS.	DELEGATES.	Baptized.....	Re'd by Letter.	Restored.....	Dismissed by Letter.	Excommunicated	Dead.....	Whites.....	Blacks.....	Total.....	Minute Fund...	Association Fund.	Sabbath meetings.
1 Enon.....	Leon, Fla.	Tallahassee.....	Children.....	James Crow, Silas Hartsfield.	7	2	4	1	28	28	100	281 75	75	.....	1
2 Antioch.....	Jefferson, Fla.	No. 4 P. & G. R. E.	Hall.....	D. Bishop, O. Ellis.	1	.....	.....	.....	22	22	100	50 1 50	1 50	.....	2
3 Antioch.....	Gadsden, Fla.	Quincy.....	Hall.....	R. C. Gallin, J. C. Rudd.	3	.....	.....	.....	38	38	100	39 2 00	2 00	.....	2
4 Big Creek.....	Thomas, Ga.	Thomasville, Ga.	Stephenson	Allen Spears.....	3	.....	.....	.....	47	47	100	147 1 50	10 00	.....	1
5 Concord.....	Madison, Fla.	Gaitman, Ga.	Campbell..	J. A. Bently.....	13	.....	.....	.....	105	105	31	136 3 00	3 50	.....	1
6 Concordia.....	Gadsden, Fla.	Concordia.....	Cooper.....	P. A. McGriff, N. T. Scott.	2	.....	.....	.....	30	30	100	30 1 50	12 00	.....	1
7 Ebenezer.....	Jefferson, Fla.	Monticello.....	.....	W. B. Cooper, W. H. Scruggs.	.....	.....	.....	.....	27	27	100	27 1 00	4 20	.....	1
8 Elizabeth.....	Jefferson, Fla.	Monticello.....	.....	W. S. Stanly, J. H. Walker.	.....	.....	.....	.....	48	48	100	48 2 50	23 00	.....	1
9 Friendship.....	Thomas, Ga.	Thomasville.....	Campbell..	S. Forrest, W. H. Wright.	.....	.....	.....	.....	52	52	100	52 2 00	.....	.....	1
10 Fin Holloway.....	Taylor, Fla.	Rose Head.....	Bostic.....	W. Head, J. H. Sutton.	23	.....	.....	.....	65	65	100	65 2 00	.....	.....	1
11 Harmony.....	Madison, Fla.	Sandy Ford.....	.....	W. W. Bostic.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	32	32	100	32 2 00	.....	.....	1
12 Indian Springs.....	Leon, Fla.	Bailey's Mill.....	Campbell..	J. Averitt, E. M. Bunker.	9	.....	.....	.....	57	57	100	57 2 00	12 35	.....	1
13 Liberty.....	Brooks, Ga.	Groverville.....	McBryde.....	J. M. Rushin, F. M. Grover.	11	.....	.....	.....	28	28	100	28 1 50	3 00	.....	1
14 Lake Jackson.....	Leon, Fla.	Tallahassee.....	Hall.....	F. Johnson, P. Barrenan.	13	.....	.....	.....	14	14	100	14 1 50	.....	.....	1
15 Lake Ellen.....	Waukalla, Fla.	Crawfordville.....	Bostic.....	J. C. Whetstone, J. E. Pigot.	18	.....	.....	.....	34	34	100	34 2 00	6 50	.....	1
16 Monticello.....	Jefferson, Fla.	Monticello.....	Fuller.....	E. S. Fuller, Jno. Clarke.	4	.....	.....	.....	64	64	100	64 2 00	1 00	.....	1
17 Mt. Bezor.....	Waukalla, Fla.	Sepechoy.....	Hall.....	S. C. Revell, G. P. Roberts.	1	.....	.....	.....	75	75	100	75 2 00	6 00	.....	1
18 Mt. Elen.....	Waukalla, Fla.	Sepechoy.....	Hall.....	G. W. Hall, S. J. Revell.	1	.....	.....	.....	54	54	100	54 2 00	29 00	.....	1
19 Madison.....	Madison, Fla.	Madison.....	Ardis.....	H. Z. Ardis, B. F. Wardlaw.	4	.....	.....	.....	84	84	100	84 2 00	14 85	.....	1
20 New Hope.....	Thomas, Ga.	Thomasville.....	Campbell..	W. J. Blewett, C. N. Powell.	1	.....	.....	.....	20	20	100	20 2 00	10 00	.....	1
21 New Hope.....	Thomas, Ga.	Thomasville.....	Manning.....	G. D. Hines, G. B. Walker.	2	.....	.....	.....	22	22	100	22 2 00	10 00	.....	1
22 New Hope.....	Colquitt, Ga.	Thomasville.....	Manning.....	J. Fitzgerald.....	27	.....	.....	.....	75	75	100	75 3 00	23 70	.....	1
23 Oak Grove.....	Leon, Fla.	Thomasville.....	Manning.....	J. P. Smith, W. S. Murray.	3	.....	.....	.....	155	155	13	168 8 00	8 40	.....	1
24 Olive.....	Jefferson, Fla.	Monticello.....	Campbell..	A. M. Manning, E. W. Stephens.	3	.....	.....	.....	45	45	100	45 2 85	.....	.....	1
25 Providence.....	Gadsden, Fla.	Quincy.....	Ardis.....	R. P. Green, J. J. Peoples.	3	.....	.....	.....	51	51	100	51 2 00	.....	.....	1
26 Pine Grove.....	Madison, Fla.	Madison.....	.....	S. Warren, J. J. Peoples.	3	.....	.....	.....	15	15	100	15 1 00	9 00	.....	1
27 Quincy.....	Gadsden, Fla.	Quincy.....	Campbell..	Not represented.	.....	.....	.....	.....	112	112	100	112 5 00	31 50	.....	1
28 Summerhill.....	Thomas, Ga.	Boston.....	Cooper.....	P. E. Massey, G. Harod.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
29 Shiloh.....	Madison, Fla.	Sandy Ford.....	.....	E. E. Barclay.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
30 Thomasville.....	Thomas, Ga.	Thomasville.....	.....	S. A. Smith, W. D. Mitchell.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Received of J. M. Rushin, Clerk, \$58.00 for printing 1,500 copies of these Minutes.				187 62 22	71	30	30	1402	280	1682	6460	207 95			