

PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
TWENTIETH ANNUAL SESSION  
OF THE  
SANTA FE RIVER  
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION  
HELD WITH THE  
PROVIDENCE BAPTIST CHURCH

1876

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TWENTIETH ANNUAL SESSION  
OF THE  
SANTA FE RIVER  
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

HELD WITH THE  
PROVIDENCE BAPTIST CHURCH,

BRADFORD COUNTY,

Oct. 7th and 9th, and Nov. 18th

OFFICERS :

H. B. McCALLUM, Moderator, .....  
H. H. TOMKIES, Clerk, .....  
W. H. L. TOWNSEND, Treasurer, .....

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1877.

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OFFICERS :

H. B. McCALLUM, Moderator, ..... *Jacksonville, Fla.*  
J. H. TOMKIES, Clerk, ..... *Gainesville, "*  
W. H. L. TOWNSEND, Treasurer, ..... *Mikesville, "*

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## MINUTES.

### FIRST DAY.

PROVIDENCE CHURCH, October 7, 1876.

The SANTA FE RIVER ASSOCIATION met with Providence Church, Bradford county, Florida, at 11 o'clock Saturday, October 7th, 1876.

The Introductory Sermon was preached by Bro. G. H. Phillips, from 1 Peter, 11:5, "Ye, also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God by Jesus Christ." Then adjourned for refreshments.

After an hour's intermission, the delegates assembled in the church. Prayer was offered by Bro. Chambers. Letters from the churches were received, read and names of delegates enrolled. Petitionary Letters were presented from Micanopy, Enon and Elizabeth churches, asking for membership in the Association. On motion, these churches were received, the Moderator extending to their delegates the right hand of fellowship.

The Association then proceeded to elect officers, when H. B. McCallum was chosen Moderator, and J. H. Tomkies, Clerk.

Visiting brethren were invited to seats. The invitation was accepted by brethren L. W. Simmons, of the New River Association, J. R. Kimbrew, of the Florida Association, and F. Edge, of the Alachua Association.

Committees were appointed, as follows:

*On Preaching*—Pastor and deacons of Providence Church and brethren F. M. Weeks and W. S. Perry.

*On Letters and Queries*—Brethren K. Chambers, T. W. Getzen, M. B. Harrison and J. W. Brown.

*On Finance*—Brethren W. S. Perry, K. D. Edge and Robert Clyatt.

*On Sunday Schools*—Brethren G. W. Hall, F. M. Weeks and J. S. Turner.

*On Religious Periodicals*—Brethren J. G. Taylor, K. Chambers, F. M. Weeks and J. H. Tomkies.

*On Missions*—Brethren B. W. Becks, E. B. Timmons, S. Sheffield, K. Chambers and S. French.

*On Nominations*—Brethren M. B. Harrison, J. P. Terry and F. M. Weeks.

Brother Chambers offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

*Resolved*, That this Association receive no charges against any church in its connection unless such church has been labored or remonstrated with by two or more sister churches, who can bear testimony to said church being in disorder.

The Association then adjourned to meet Monday, at 9 o'clock A. M.

### SECOND DAY.

SUNDAY, October 8th.

It rained incessantly the whole day, and thus interrupted the religious services of the Association as they had been previously arranged.

### THIRD DAY.

MONDAY, October 9th, 1876.

A portion of the delegates met at the church, and were called to order by the Moderator. Prayer was offered by Bro. Hall.

The weather being so extremely inclement, it was decided to be impossible to finish the business of the Association at the present meeting, and, on motion of Bro. Chambers, it was resolved to hold an adjourned meeting of the Association, commencing Saturday before the Third Sunday in November.

The Executive Committee read their report, which was received and the committee allowed to complete it.

Brethren Becks and Hall read reports of their labors as the Missionaries of the Association.

The Finance Committee made a partial report, which was received and the committee continued.

The funds in the hands of the Finance Committee were ordered to be turned over to the Executive Committee, and one-half to be retained by them for defraying the expense of publishing the minutes.

The Association then adjourned, to meet at the same place Saturday, November 18th, 1876.

## ADJOURNED SESSION.

### FIRST DAY.

PROVIDENCE CHURCH, November 18, 1876.

The Association met at 11 o'clock, with Providence Church, according to adjournment.

A sermon was preached by Bro. S. French, from Isaiah 43:10, "Ye are my witnesses, saith the Lord."

The Association then adjourned for refreshment.

### AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Association met at 2 o'clock P. M., and, after religious exercises, proceeded to business.

The minutes of the October meeting were read and approved.

On motion, the resolution previously offered by Bro. Chambers, and adopted, was changed, the word "one" being substituted for "two." The resolution, as amended, reads:

*Resolved*, That this Association receive no charges against any church in its connection, unless such church has been labored or remonstrated with by one or more sister churches, who can bear testimony to said church being in disorder.

A petitionary letter was received from Concord Church, Levy county, asking membership in the Association. On motion, the church was received.

Visiting brethren were invited to seats, when Bro. W. N. Chaudoin was received as Agent of the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, and Bro. W. J. Hughes was received as Corresponding Messenger from the Georgia Baptist Convention.

The report of the Committee on Religious Periodicals was read by Bro. J. G. Taylor, and, after discussion, was adopted.

### REPORT ON RELIGIOUS PERIODICALS.

The Committee on Religious Periodicals and Sunday School Literature would recommend that our Association adopt as an organ some sound Baptist paper, so as to enable us to hold communication with each other, and also to publish our success to the world; and, as such a paper, we would recommend either the Christian Index, published at Atlanta, Georgia, or the Baptist Reflector, published at

Morristown, Tennessee. As literature, we would recommend, first of all, a more marked regard for the Holy Scriptures, which contain the words of eternal truth. We also recommend Sherwood's Notes on the New Testament, Kind Words, an excellent Sunday School paper, published by S. Boykin, Macon, Georgia, and the publications of the Southern Baptist Publication Society, Memphis, Tenn.

Respectfully submitted,

J. G. TAYLOR, *Chairman.*

Bro. French presented the report of the Committee on Missions. The report was adopted.

#### REPORT ON MISSIONS.

The cause of Missions should be dear to every Christian heart, for it is the cause of Christ, who has said to His people, "Ye are the light of the world." And as every Christian is a component part of that light, it is an exalted privilege which the Saviour has conferred upon us to be fellow-laborers with Him in the salvation of sinners. There are many ways in which the Christian may let his light shine, and none more conspicuous than by sending the gospel to those who are destitute of it. Therefore we earnestly urge every member of our Association to make the cause of Missions—and especially within our own bounds—a matter of special prayer, and honestly ask the blessed Master, *How much do I owe thee?*

We feel thankful to our Heavenly Father for the divine favor and success which have attended the labors of our missionaries the past year. They have preached two hundred and sixty-two sermons, constituted seven churches, and baptized eighty-three believers. And, as we are opposed to sending out men without a fair prospect of remuneration for their services, we would urge this body to use every means to sustain at least two missionaries—one on the St. John's river and one in Levy county.

Our country is rapidly filling up with immigrants, especially upon the St. John's river. These immigrants bring with them all the isms and infidelity of the North and West. One of these immigrants told one of your missionaries last year that he left the North to get away from so much preaching. A minister from Kansas also said to him, "I am surprised to find such a general acknowledgment of the Supreme Being upon the part of the unconverted people of Florida. It is not so in the North and West."

The Pedobaptists are making strenuous efforts upon the St. John's river, and not without some success. The majority of the church-going people are Baptist in sentiment. Shall we, dear brethren, sit idle, or shall we occupy this land for the Master? is a question for you to answer by your actions.

Respectfully submitted,

B. W. BECKS, *Chairman.*

On motion, the collection on Sunday was ordered to be divided—one-third to the Home Mission Board (S. B. Convention) and two-thirds to the Association Board.

Bro. Chambers read the report of the Committee on

Letters and Queries. The report was discussed. No decision was reached.

The Association then adjourned to meet Monday, at 9 o'clock A. M.

#### SECOND DAY.

SUNDAY, November 19.

Rev. W. N. Chaudoin preached at 11 o'clock, from 3 John, 1-8. After the sermon a collection for Missions was taken. Amount contributed \$59.88.

Rev. W. J. Hughes, of Georgia, preached in the afternoon.

#### THIRD DAY.

MONDAY, November 20, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Association met according to adjournment, and, after religious exercises, proceeded to business.

The report on Letters and Queries came up for consideration. The report was discussed by brethren Taylor, McCallum, Chambers and Chaudoin, then, on motion, re-committed, and finally adopted, as follows:

#### REPORT ON LETTERS AND QUERIES.

The Committee on Letters and Queries make the following report:

*First*—In regard to query from Gadara Church, as to the validity of the baptism of some persons, we would say to the church that the information furnished by your letter is not sufficient to enable this body to come to a definite conclusion as to the matter proposed in your query. We therefore respectfully refer the matter back; and further advise you to get all the information possible before deciding upon so important and delicate a matter. After getting all the information possible, if the church is satisfied that the administrator was an impostor, then we would consider the baptisms invalid and advise you to act accordingly.

*Second*—We recommend that the next session of this body be held with the Pine Grove Church, Levy county.

Respectfully submitted,

K. CHAMBERS, *Chairman.*

The report of the Committee on Sunday Schools was read by Bro. Weeks, and, after amendment, it was adopted.

#### REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

The Committee on Sunday Schools would report that very few of the churches have sent up Sunday School reports, as they were asked to do, and we are therefore unable to obtain anything like a full

report of the Sunday School work in our bounds. We know there are some flourishing schools in the churches of our Association, and we have reason to believe that the cause is making progress.

We would urge the importance of increased effort in this department of Christian work. A Sabbath School in every Baptist church should be our motto.

In conclusion, we earnestly ask the churches to incorporate in their Letters to the Association full reports of their Sunday Schools. Let these reports include the following facts, viz: Number of teachers, number of scholars, number of books in library, number of papers taken, amount of contributions. We hope all the churches will comply with this request.

F. M. WEEKS, *Chairman*.

The Committee on Nominations made a report, which was adopted.

#### REPORT ON NOMINATIONS.

Your committee recommend that Bro. J. G. Taylor preach the Introductory Sermon, and Bro. M. M. Wamboldt the Missionary Sermon, at our next Association.

M. B. HARRISON, *Chairman*.

Bro. Weeks read the report of the Finance Committee, which was adopted.

#### REPORT ON FINANCE.

The Committee on Finance beg leave to make an additional report:

Amount sent up from churches.....	\$48 30
Received at the October meeting.....	58 20
Received pledge of F. M. Weeks.....	10 00
Received pledge of A. J. Hutchingson.....	5 00
Received pledge of E. D. Dubose.....	3 00
Amount collected Sunday Association Missions.....	40 18

Total amount received for Association purposes.....\$164 68

Of this amount \$58.20 was paid Bro. E. B. Timmons at the October session.

Also collected on Sunday for Indian Missions.....	\$19 66
Special contributions to Indian Missions.....	13 20

Total paid W. N. Chaudoin for Indian Missions.....\$32 86

Owing to the adjournment of the Association at the regular meeting without being able to finish the business, the committee is unable to credit each church with the amounts sent up.

W. S. PERRY, *Chairman*.

#### TREASURER'S RECEIPT.

Received of W. S. Perry, chairman Finance Committee, One Hundred and Seven Dollars and forty-eight cents, Associational Fund. November 18th, 1876.

W. H. L. TOWNSEND.

It was ordered to have the Constitution printed in the minutes.

The following resolution, offered by Bro. Getzen, was passed:

*Resolved*, That the order of business for this body be so changed that the fifth order, viz., the election of officers, come before Petitionary Letters are called for.

A collection was taken for State Missions; amount received, cash, \$6.93; subscribed, \$1.

The Treasurer's report was read and adopted.

#### REPORT OF TREASURER.

W. H. L. Townsend, in account with Santa Fe River Association:

Dr.	
To cash received from Finance Committee, October, 1875....	\$236 81
Cr.	
Paid S. E. Timmons, Treasurer Executive Board.....	\$76 76
Paid J. H. Tomkies for printing minutes and as Clerk.....	75 00
Paid H. A. Tupper, Secretary Foreign Mission Board.....	23 72
Paid H. B. McCallum, for H. A. Tupper.....	10 50
Paid W. N. Chaudoin, for Home Mission Board.....	12 75
Paid S. Sheffield, by order of Association.....	35 00
Cash in hands of Treasurer.....	3 08
	\$236 81

All of which is respectfully submitted, with vouchers.

W. H. L. TOWNSEND, *Treasurer*.

The same brethren were unanimously elected as the Executive Committee for another year.

A committee of five was appointed to consider and report on the missionary work of the Association for the coming year, of which committee Bro. K. Chambers was chairman.

The Association adjourned for dinner.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Association met and proceeded to business.

The following brethren were appointed delegates to the State Convention: F. M. Weeks, J. G. Taylor, T. W. Getzen, K. Chambers, H. B. McCallum, R. Turner, J. S. Turner, G. W. Hall and M. M. Wamboldt.

H. B. McCallum and F. M. Weeks were appointed messengers to the Georgia Baptist Convention.

Bro. Getzen offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this body be tendered to the members of Providence Church and citizens of the community for their generous hospitality to the delegates of this Association, and that the

Clerk have six hundred copies of the minutes printed, and that he receive twenty-five dollars for his services.

The Special Committee on Missionary Work of the Association reported as follows:

We, the committee, recommend that the same fields be occupied, viz.: the St. John's river and Levy county, and that the same plan of operations be continued by the Executive Committee as was pursued for the past year. As to raising funds and making contracts, we hold that the Association must sustain them in their engagements.

K. CHAMBERS, *Chairman.*

The report was unanimously adopted.

On motion of Bro. Taylor, J. H. Tomkies was appointed to correspond with the proprietors of the Christian Index, Atlanta, Ga., and the Baptist Reflector, Morristown, Tenn., to ascertain if any arrangements could be made with them in getting a department for the Baptists of Florida in either of these papers.

After singing, and prayer by Bro. Chambers, the Association then adjourned, to meet with Pine Grove Church, Levy county, Saturday before the Second Sunday in October 1876.

H. B. McCALLUM, *Moderator.*

J. H. TOMKIES, *Clerk.*

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The Executive Committee of the Santa Fe River Association offer the following annual report:

We held a meeting at Paran Church, October 30th, 1875, and employed two missionaries, to-wit: Bro. G. W. Hall, to labor on the Levy County Mission, and Bro. B. W. Becks, on the St. John's river. These brethren were employed at a salary of three hundred dollars (\$300) each for the year; the Board confidently believing from the enthusiasm manifested at the Association, the system recommended to the churches for raising missionary funds, the money in the hands of the Treasurer, together with the pledges made, would be a sufficient amount to pay the missionaries and give the Board a solid basis on which to found their action.

We issued a circular to the churches, recommending a systematic plan for raising the funds needed, informing them of what we had done and requesting them to advise us whether our action was approved; but as yet only a few of the churches have responded to the call. A few of the churches have very nobly responded, and from our statement below you can see what can be done by a little system and effort. In this condition we groped our way in the dark, hoping to hear something from the churches, until at our last meeting, which was a month later than it should have been, we resolved to suspend missionary work.

Thus another year has closed, and we have only to say that we have done the best we could.

We would recommend to the Association the appointment of special committee to arrange the missionary work, such as employing missionaries, fixing their salaries, designating their fields of labor, etc., and report the same to the Association while in session. This would greatly lighten the responsibility of the Board, and relieve it of assuming duties which rightfully belong to the Association.

TABLE OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS.

Received from Paran Missionary Society.....	\$25 40
Received from Hickory Grove Missionary Society.....	2 50
Received from Putnam Union.....	16 38
Received from Shiloh Missionary Society.....	3 75
Received from Saluda Missionary Society.....	3 75
Received from Eliam Missionary Society.....	19 40
Received on Pledges, Thos. Hicks.....	2 00
“ “ C. C. Ashley.....	3 00
“ “ H. E. Timmons.....	3 00
“ “ M. B. Hicks.....	2 00
“ “ M. Seigler.....	10 00
Received from individual collections.....	2 00
“ W. H. L. Townsend, Treasurer, \$76.76, less 75 cents express charges.....	76 01
“ Saluda Church, per J. H. Tomkies.....	3 75
“ Penial Church.....	2 25
“ Bethesda Church.....	70
“ Enon Church.....	25
“ Beulah Church.....	70
“ Eliam Church.....	7 40

Whole amount .....\$184 24

DISBURSEMENTS.

Paid Rev. G. W. Hall, as per Voucher No. 1.....	\$9 20
“ “ “ “ 2.....	14 60
“ “ “ “ 3.....	50 72
“ “ “ “ 6.....	3 23
“ “ “ “ 8.....	10 56
“ “ as per Report No. 5.....	21 75
“ “ as per Voucher No. 4.....	3 80
“ “ “ “ 10.....	31 27
“ “ “ “ 12.....	5 00
Paid Rev. B. W. Becks, as per Voucher No. 7.....	71 10
“ “ “ “ 9.....	31 27
“ “ as per Report No. 11.....	76 10
Incidental expenses.....	63

Whole amount paid to Missionaries.....\$338 38

Having submitted this, our annual report, the Board would now respectfully tender to the Association their resignation.

E. B. TIMMONS,	S. E. TIMMONS,
J. T. CAUTHEN,	W. S. PERRY,
M. SEIGLER,	J. H. TOMKIES,

*Committee.*



16  
31  
3  
50

## REPORT OF REV. G. W. HALL, MISSIONARY.

Days of Service.....	165
Miles travelled.....	2,269
Sermons preached.....	202
Addresses made.....	31
Families visited.....	265
Baptized.....	68
Received by Letter.....	31
Restored.....	13
Churches constituted.....	4
Ministers ordained.....	1
Deacons ordained.....	2
Sunday Schools organized.....	2

## Funds received and collected, as follows:

From Providence Church.....	\$5 00
" Pleasant Grove Church.....	12 25
" Pine Grove Church.....	3 10
" Cedar Keys Church.....	16 80
" Micanopy Church.....	10 33
" Ebenezer Church.....	1 50
" Concord Church.....	7 28
" Wacasassa Union.....	4 10
" Columbia Union.....	8 70
" Elder S. Sheffield.....	5 00
" N. R. Carter.....	8 10
" W. S. Perry.....	5 00
" John Perry.....	2 00
" Mrs. C. McGrew.....	1 00
" J. S. Turner.....	1 00
" J. E. Dubose.....	1 00
" Mrs. C. Galiger.....	60
" Mrs. E. Geiger.....	60
" Mrs. N. R. Carter.....	60
" Mrs. John McGrew.....	50
" John McGrew.....	50
" Mrs. J. S. Turner.....	50
" Mrs. Morgan.....	50
" Mrs. A. J. Johnson.....	75
" S. A. Steppard.....	50
" R. Woods.....	25
" Otter Creek.....	7 00
" W. G. Cade.....	4 00

Total.....\$108 46  
Traveling expenses.....9 50

Balance.....\$98 96  
Received of Executive Committee.....\$128 86

Total amount received for services.....\$227 32  
Amount still due.....47 70

Respectfully submitted,

G. W. HALL, *Missionary.*

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## REPORT OF REV. B. W. BECKS, MISSIONARY.

Time Employed, Seven and a half Months.

Miles traveled.....	1,900
Sermons preached.....	60
Addresses made.....	15
Baptized.....	15
Churches constituted.....	3
Ministers ordained.....	1
Deacons ordained.....	3
Collected from Beulah Church.....	\$47 00
From Beulah Church Missionary Society.....	7 50
" Penial Church Missionary Society.....	13 15
" Osceola Church.....	7 20
" Lake Louisa.....	2 00
" Enon Church.....	3 75

Total.....\$80 60  
Received from Executive Board.....\$101 50

Whole amount received.....\$182 10  
Deduct traveling expenses.....\$20 00

Balance.....\$162 10  
Amount still due.....\$25 40

Respectfully submitted,

B. W. BECKS, *Missionary.*

## RECEIPT FROM TREASURER.

Received from H. B. McCallum \$12 00, on payment of Missionary pledge, and also \$6 25, from Jacksonville Baptist Church.  
W. H. L. TOWNSEND, *Treasurer.*

## CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

OF THE

## SANTA FE RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

ARTICLE I. This body shall be denominated the Santa Fe River Baptist Association.

ARTICLE II. It shall be composed of such Churches as hold to the doctrine of Human Depravity; the atonement of Christ; the election to Eternal Life; Regeneration and perseverance of the Saints; Baptism by immersion of the person in water, administered to none but professed believers, and the Lord's Supper intended for those only who have been regularly admitted into the visible Church.

ARTICLE III. We take the only living and true God, in three persons—Father, Son and Holy Ghost—to be one God.

ARTICLE IV. We take the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament to be the only rule of Faith and Practice, both in the concerns of religion and the general affairs of life, and particularly for transacting the affairs of our Churches.

ARTICLE V. We take the Church of Christ to be a congregation of faithful persons, who live in fellowship, and have given themselves to the Lord and to one another, in cordial agreement to observe holy discipline, in conformity with the requirements of the Scriptures.

ARTICLE VI. We take Jesus Christ to be the Great Head of the Church, and the only one given; that the government under Him is with the body, and is the privilege of each individual member; that spiritual discipline with an eye single to the glory of God, must greatly conduce to the final prosperity and union of the Churches.

ARTICLE VII. In view of the increase of fraternal love, knowledge, usefulness and efficiency, which must accrue from an association of Churches, in cordial union upon the principles of the Gospel, we have sought to be thus united, that by individual and collective action, we may best subserve the great objects of the Redeemer's Kingdom; and the concurrence of two-thirds will dissolve the connection.

ARTICLE VIII. This Association shall have power to withdraw its connection from any Church which shall act contrary to the teachings of the Holy Scriptures.

ARTICLE IX. New Churches, wishing to be admitted into this body, shall petition by letters and messengers, and upon examination, if found orthodox and orderly, shall be admitted, by receiving the right hand of fellowship of the Moderator.

ARTICLE X. No church shall have a right to more than two delegates unless she shall exceed fifty in membership, and then shall be entitled to one additional delegate for every fifty after the first fifty.

ARTICLE XI. Every query sent to the Association by any Church in its union shall be read, and put to vote by the Moderator whether it shall be debated, and if there shall be a majority in favor, it shall be taken up and debated, but if not, it shall be withdrawn; Pro-

vided, always, that those be first considered which effect the union of the Churches.

ARTICLE XII. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the observation of the Association, unless withdrawn by the mover.

ARTICLE XIII. Every member who speaks shall rise from his seat, and address the Moderator, and shall not be interrupted, unless he depart from the subject.

ARTICLE XIV. No person shall speak more than three times upon one subject without permission of the body. The Constitution of this body may be altered or amended by the concurrence of two-thirds of its members.

ARTICLE XV. No member shall absent himself without leave of the Moderator.

ARTICLE XVI. It shall be the first business of this Association to provide for the general union of Churches; second, to provide for the destitution of the Churches and Districts, by missionary aid; third, to keep up a correspondence with other Associations of like faith and order, that a chain of communication may be preserved among the Churches; fourthly, to give the Churches the best advice they can in matters of difficulty.

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