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MINUTES

—OF THE—

TWENTY-NINTH ANNUAL SESSION

—OF THE—

SANTA FE RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

—HELD WITH—

PROVIDENCE CHURCH,

*Providence, Fla., Oct. 28, 29 and 30, 1885.*

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GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA:

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DAILY NEWS PRINT.  
1885.

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PROVIDENCE CHURCH,

BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA.

*October 28, 29 and 30, 1885.*

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W. N. CHAUDOIN .....	MODERATOR .....	Jacksonville.
J. HALSTED .....	CLERK .....	Gainesville.
W. W. HALL .....	TREASURER .....	Melrose.

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GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA:

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DAILY NEWS PRINT.  
1885.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Introductory Sermon.
2. Association called to order by the Moderator.
3. Reading Letters and Enrolling names of Delegates.
4. Election of Officers—Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer.
5. Call for petitionary Letters.
6. Visiting brethren invited to seats.
7. Letters of Correspondence.
8. Appointment of Committees.
9. Report of Committees.
10. Appointment of Messengers to State Convention, and other Associations.
11. Miscellaneous Business.
12. Adjournment.

OFFICERS.

W. N. CHAUDOIN, Moderator ..... Jacksonville, Fla.  
 I. J. HALSTED, Clerk ..... Gainesville, Fla.  
 G. W. HALL, Treasurer ..... Melrose, Fla.

MINISTERS OF THIS ASSOCIATION AND THEIR POST OFFICES.

S. K. Leavitt ..... Jacksonville, Fla.  
 G. W. Hall ..... Melrose, Fla.  
 H. M. King ..... Gainesville, Fla.  
 W. N. Chaudoin ..... Jacksonville, Fla.  
 W. S. Perry ..... Rochelle, Fla.  
 C. V. Waugh ..... Gainesville, Fla.  
 B. H. Damon ..... Waldo, Fla.  
 S. T. Stanaland ..... Grahamville, Fla.  
 B. I. Hull ..... Grahamville, Fla.  
 B. R. Moseley ..... Waldo, Fla.  
 N. T. King ..... Providence, Fla.  
 Robt. McClellan ..... Jacksonville, Fla.  
 C. C. Hill ..... Melrose, Fla.

MINUTES.

OCTOBER 28th, 1885.

The Santa Fe River Association met this day with Providence Church.

The exercises opened by singing "Come Thou Fount of every Blessing." Prayer by Rev. G. W. Hall.

The Introductory Sermon was preached by Rev. H. M. King, from 1st Tim. 3d chap., 15th verse.

After a recess of an hour the messengers were called together by the former Moderator, and the Clerk being absent, I. J. Halsted was elected Clerk *pro tem*.

And the letters from the churches were read and the messengers' names enrolled.

Visiting brethren were invited to seats with us and accepted by Bro. Thomas F. Williams, of Lakeland, Fla.

The body then proceeded to permanent organization by electing W. N. Chaudoin Moderator, I. J. Halsted Clerk, and G. W. Hall Treasurer by acclamation

The order of business of last session was adopted.

Called for correspondence, and names enrolled as follows:

*Beulah Association*.—Rev. G. T. Leitner, Bro. F. M. Pinkston.

The following committees were then announced by the Moderator: *Preaching and Nominations*.—B. R. Moseley and Messengers of Providence Church.

*Finance*.—T. W. Thompson, James Weeks, W. S. Blitch.

*Sunday Schools*.—G. W. Hall, P. E. Woodward, L. F. Gay.

*Letters and Queries*.—T. F. Avant, J. W. Cone, J. D. McKindley.

*Missions*.—B. R. Moseley, H. R. Williams.

*Woman's Mission Work*.—H. M. King, S. K. Leavitt, Elias Earle.

*Publications*.—N. T. King, J. S. Griner.

*Deceased Ministers and Deacons*.—W. S. Perry, Henry Mizell.

*Temperance*.—Robt. McClellan, K. D. Edge.

The Committee on Preaching reported that Bro. Leitner preach at the Church to-night, and Bro. Hall preach at the Lutheran Church.

Adjourned to meet at 9 a. m. to-morrow morning.

Prayer by Rev. Perry.

AT NIGHT.

Bro. Leitner preached from Luke, 10th chap. 20th verse.

Bro. Hall preached at the Lutheran Church from Matt., 8th chap. 20th verse.

THURSDAY MORNING—9 A. M.

Meeting called to order by the Moderator. Prayer by Bro. Drew.

7 Renewed invitation to visiting brethren.

Renewed call for correspondents.

Which was accepted by Rev. P. C. Drew and Bro. F. B. Moodie, of Beulah Association.

The letter from Tabernacle Church of Jacksonville, was read and Messengers enrolled.

Appointed Correspondents as follows:

*To State Convention.*—Bro. B. R. Moseley, H. M. King, G. W. Hall, W. N. Chaudoin, Elias Earle, I. J. Halsted, J. S. Weeks, W. T. Weeks. Beulah Association meets with Elam Church at Fort White. Bro. K. D. Edge, H. R. Williams.

*New River.*—Elias Earle, I. J. Halsted.

*St. Johns River.*—Bro. B. R. Moseley, W. N. Chaudoin.

*Marion.*—Bros. H. M. King, W. S. Perry.

*St. Mary's River.*—Bro. S. K. Leavitt.

The Treasurer's report was read and ordered to be printed in the Minutes, as follows:

#### TREASURER'S REPORT.

*G. W. Hall in account with Santa Fe River Association.*

1884.	Dr.		
Nov. 14.	Received of Finance Committee	.....	\$89 60
	Collection	.....	42 53
			\$132 13
	Cr.		
	Paid W. N. Chaudoin, State Miss	.....	\$76 00
	“ “ “ “ Foreign Miss	.....	2 00
	“ “ “ “ Bible Work	.....	12 40
	“ N. A. Bailey for services and printing Minutes	.....	33 60
	Due Treasurer from 1883	.....	1 48
			\$125 48
	Balance in Treasury	.....	6 65

G. W. HALL, Treasurer.

7 The Committee on Letters and Queries read their report, which was ordered printed in the Minutes, as follows:

Your Committee on Letters and Queries report that they have carefully examined the letters from the different Churches, and find that there have not been any queries sent up from any of the Churches. We find from the reading of the letters that the spiritual condition of the Churches are good, and all are thriving and prosperous; and all have had seasons of refreshing from the Lord during the past year. We find that all the Churches (with the exception of one) report flourishing Sabbath Schools. We also find that nearly all of the baptisms reported was scholars from the Sabbath School.

Respectfully submitted,

T. F. AVANT, }  
J. W. CONE, } Committee.

The report of Committee on Missions was read, and was discussed by brethren Moseley, Leavitt, H. M. King and Chaudoin. Pending the

discussion the hour for preaching arrived, and the body took a recess to hear the Missionary Sermon, which was preached by Rev. S. K. Leavitt, from Rom. 11, 13.

After the sermon a collection was taken, amounting to \$31.60

The Committee on Preaching reported that Bro. Drew preach at the Church this evening, which was afterwards recalled.

Adjourned to 2 p. m.

2 P. M.—Association called to order by the Moderator. Prayer by Bro. N. T. King.

The report on Missions was adopted without further discussion, as follows:

#### MISSIONS.

Your Committee respectfully report: That we see no reason for urging the importance of Missions. Our people all know it. We are called Missionary Baptists; our preachers and our bibles tell us the importance of Missions, and your Committee don't want to prove what is already confessed, but would urge to action, as Daniel Webster says: Noble, Godlike action. The Bible says, if we should say, "depart, be ye warned and filled and do not give to the needy, it profits nothing." The Apostle John says "let us not love in word, but in deed," that is, in action.

Dr. Tupper is even now writing to the papers that the Board must send no more Missionaries until the Churches approve of what the Board has done and wishes to do by contributing. Yes, and is there any other way to approve of the Missionary cause except by giving to it? Rev. Jesse Mercer once preached that God would convert the world by men and money. Would he were here to-day. We have the men and the money; what shall we do with them? Shall we not say to our dollars, go, and shall they not speak louder than we to our Missionaries, go ye also into the vineyard?

The worst of it all is we are getting poor by our stinginess. Is it true that a blight has settled upon the Southern cotton fields? What with boll-worms, caterpillar, rust and wet weather, many have abandoned its cultivation. But will the Lord bless us at any thing else if we do not give? We do give, but alas! not all, and hardly any of us half enough. We might give five times as much to Missions, the best of us and not feel it. Whence our unbelief? Whoever got poor by giving to his Savior's cause? We look at the sad sight, our Foreign Mission Board ringing out words of cheer last spring and telling of the hopeful outlook, and now they say they must stop, and perhaps recall some that are gone. Shall it be? God grant that it be not by our means. To this end we look chiefly to the pastors. They must give the true ring, and men will not be wholly indifferent. Amidst all our indifference there are hopeful signs.

The Woman's Societies and the Children's Board are doing grand work; and they are on the increase, both in numbers and efficiency. We almost forbear to praise them as being beyond our praises. But we must say they are doing *sometimes*, in one little Church what was once grand work for an Association. This last is chiefly by the power of lilies, or rather of many lilies, which means systematic giving.

The water falls down drop by drop and wears away the stone; the grass grows day and night, and none can see it grow, yet it clothes the

earth with green and feeds the cattle of the world; the oak tree grows silently until it stands the giant of the forest and defies the storms. So with these Woman's Mission Societies and Children's Mission Boards.

The poor widow gives her mite, not once nor twice, but continually; her sisters bring theirs; they gather their treasures and they are many; they become thousands—they will yet be millions. To all of them we would give all the encouragement we can. Be of good cheer, ye servants of the Lord; your labor is not vain in the Lord. She is the mother and sister of our Lord Jesus Christ, who loves His name and works for His cause. He said it Himself.

In conclusion, we say to all who have done nothing, may God forgive you and grant you one of the sweetest blessings of eternal life, the grace of benevolence. To those who have done well, the Lord help you to do better, that sowing more abundantly ye may reap also bountifully. To those who have done what they could, the Lord be with you; we bless you in the name of the Lord. The destitution within the bounds of this body is supplied chiefly by voluntary labors of the pastors of churches. The minutes of the Baptist State Convention and the Baptist Witness will tell better of the general destitution. We urge all to take the Foreign Mission Journal, which can be had in clubs for 25 cents, and will give information which all ought to have who love Jesus or who want to try to love Him.

B. R. MOSELEY, }  
H. R. WILLIAMS, } Committee.

With the following amendment offered by Bro. H. M. King:

And that we earnestly recommend to the churches of this Association that they raise their part (\$125) of the \$1,000 asked for from Florida by the Foreign Mission Board.

The Committee on Preaching reported that Bro. G. W. Hall preach to-morrow at 10 o'clock to the children.

The following is the report of the Committee on Publications which was discussed by Bros. Leavitt, Moodie, Hall and Chaudoin, after which it was adopted.

#### PUBLICATIONS.

Your Committee on Publications beg leave to submit the following: We recognize the press as one of the great powers of the land, and in the hands of Christians, can be made a mighty agency for good. The religious press can do a work and exercise an influence over the minds of men no other agency can. We should therefore encourage the circulation and reading of good literature. We would call the particular attention of our people to the Baptist Witness, the organ of our denomination in the State, and urge upon them the importance of aiding the paper by taking and reading it, thereby doing themselves good besides aiding in sustaining the State organ of the denomination. We also call attention to the "Kind Words" published under the auspices of the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, and publications of the American Baptist Publication Society, as sound and safe literature to circulate. All of which we respectfully submit.

N. T. KING, }  
J. S. GRINER, } Committee.

The report of the Committee on Woman's Work in Missions was read, when a recess of 45 minutes was taken for the purpose of conducting a meeting of the ladies for Mission work. After recess the report of the Committee was adopted, as follows:

#### WOMAN'S WORK.

Your Committee on Woman's Work report that from information derived from the letters and from Messengers, we find that only the Tabernacle, Eliam, Pleasant Grove, Providence and Phillippi Churches have Ladies Mission Bands with Children's Bands at Eliam and Pleasant Grove, and a Ladies' Benevolent Association and Lottie Moon Mission Society at Gainesville. From these facts we fear that in some of our churches, at least, there is a decline of interest in this work. This we most deeply deplore, and earnestly entreat our sisters to renew with increased zeal, interest in this work. The rich fruits of the past and the very hopeful future of their work in our State is too cheering to allow of any abatement of the effort upon their part.

H. M. KING, }  
ELIAS EARLE, } Committee.

The report of the Committee on Temperance was read and adopted without discussion, as follows:

Your Committee on Temperance submit the following: We return sincere thanks to our Heavenly Father for the impressions made on our denomination on this subject, which we recognize as one of the most important stones in the Church of Christ. Temperance in all things is clearly set forth in the Bible as being one of the Christians' safe-guards, and worthy of our hearty acceptance as churches and individuals.

We heartily recommend a total abstinence from intoxicating drinks. We thank God for the gigantic strides that have been taken in the past year to overwhelm this monster, in other States as well as our own.

We recommend that the churches of this Association see to it that none of their members sign liquor petitions.

We further recommend that the pastors of our churches preach at least one sermon each year on temperance, so that when this subject is fully understood, Christian men will be able to deal with it in a proper manner.

ROBT. McCLELLAN, }  
K. D. EDGE, } Committee.

With the following amendment, by adding:

And that churches deal with members who sign liquor petitions as leniently as possible, but exclude them if obstinate.

The Committee on Nominations reported as follows:

The Committee respectfully recommend that the next session be held with the Pleasant Grove Church, on Wednesday after the 4th Sunday in October, 1886. That Bro. B. R. Moseley preach the Introductory Sermon; Bro. S. K. Leavitt be the alternate. That Bro. W. N. Chaudoin preach the Missionary Sermon, and Bro. H. M. King be the alternate.

K. D. EDGE, Chairman.

On motion the following resolution was adopted, to-wit:

*Resolved*, That the collection for Missions be divided as follows: \$10 to the Cuban Missions, and the remainder be divided equally between Ministerial Education and Foreign Missions.

The report of the Finance Committee was read and adopted.

The Committee on Deceased Ministers and Deacons reported as follows, which was adopted:

#### DECEASED MINISTERS AND DEACONS.

Your Committee are grateful to our Heavenly Father for His goodness in sparing through another year all of our brethren who labor in word and doctrine; but it is our sad duty to ask this body to join with us in some suitable expression of our sense of bereavement and loss in the death of two of our most pious, prominent and useful deacons, viz: Bro. J. T. Weston, of the Eliam Church, who, in the office of deacon, purchased to himself a good degree and great boldness in the faith, and also Bro. John Hull, of Hickory Head Church, whose consecrated piety and pure benevolence causes his memory to be most tenderly cherished by all who knew him.

Respectfully submitted,

W. S. PERRY,  
HENRY MIZELL, } Committee.

J. T. WESTON.

JOHN HULL.

On motion, adjourned to 9 o'clock to-morrow mornin g. Prayer by Bro. S. K. Leavitt.

#### FRIDAY MORNING—9 A. M.

The Association was called to order by the Moderator. Prayer by Bro. Halsted.

On motion, Bro. King was requested to furnish as complete a digest as possible, of the Introductory Sermon, and that we request its publication in The Florida Baptist Witness.

On motion it was voted that 500 copies of the Minutes be printed, and that the Clerk be allowed \$10 for his services, and that an order be drawn on the Treasurer for the amount.

On motion, voted that on the 3d day of the Association, at 11 o'clock, a doctrinal sermon be preached, and Bro. S. K. Leavitt be appointed to preach such sermon at the next session.

The following resolution of thanks was adopted:

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this body are due and are hereby tendered to the members of Providence Church and the citizens of Providence, for their generous hospitality during the session of the Association. Also, to the railroads for reduced rates given to the messengers.

The Committee on Sunday Schools made their report, which was discussed by Bros. Hall, Moseley, Clyatt, Leavitt and Chaudoin. The report was adopted, after which Bro. Hall preached a sermon to the children.

The following is the report:

#### REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

We are glad to note that nearly all the churches of this Association represented at this session, have Sunday Schools which seem to be in good condition. Eliam Church at Melrose, reporting four schools at different places conducted by the membership of that church.

We are rejoiced to notice an increasing interest in Sunday School work all over the country, and trust that the time is near at hand when there will be a Sunday School in every church and community where there are as many as a half dozen persons to be found.

Your Committee wishes to place on record some important reasons why every one should be engaged in the Sunday School.

1. God commands us to train our children in the way they should go; to teach them his commandments diligently. But parents cannot do this unless they know how to train and teach their children. And they cannot do this without a knowledge of the Holy Scriptures, and they will not obtain this knowledge unless they will study God's word regularly, and they will not do this unless they attend Sunday School. Therefore,

*Resolved*, That we earnestly recommend that every parent attend the Sunday School with their children and study the Bible regularly and systematically, where it is possible to do so.

2. We need Bible Christians for church members. But in the struggle and haste of this short life, the doctrines and duties of God's precious truth will never be learned by many unless they are studied in the Sunday School.

3. We need persons for citizens of our country who are familiar with the teachings of the Holy Scriptures, that they may be wise legislators, teachers and law-abiding citizens.

4. The Sunday School is a Bible School, where we can learn to obey the admonition of our Savior, who said, "search the Scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life, and they are they which testify of me." Where we can gain the knowledge necessary to enable us to obey the requirements of God's Holy truth. The Psalmist says, "I have hid thy word in my heart that I might not sin against thee." Therefore, we would kindly and earnestly urge every pastor to make effort to establish a Sunday School with every church and in every neighborhood, where every member of the church and every other person be encouraged to attend that they may study the Bible.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

G. W. HALL,  
P. E. WOODWARD, } Committee.  
L. F. GAY,

After the sermon the Moderator, in a few well chosen and touching remarks, bade the Association farewell. A collection was taken amounting to \$7.46 for Ministerial Education. The parting hand was given, and prayer was offered by Bro. Drew. The gavel fell and the Association stood adjourned to meet with the Pleasant Grove Church at Hawthorn, on the Wednesday after the 4th Sunday in October, 1886.

W. N. CHAUDOIN, MODERATOR.

I. J. HALSTED, CLERK.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT.

CHURCHES.	SUPERINTENDENT.	CHURCH * PROPERTY	
		Seating Capacity.	Value of Church Property.
Eliam	W. H. Lee	250	\$1 200
Gainesville	Robt. McClellan	150	4 000
Hickory Head	Working with another school	300	1 000
Philippi	G. W. Riles	200	1 300
Pleasant Grove	M. Baily	400	640
Providence	L. F. Gay	300	6 000
Tabernacle	E. Bean	100	500
Waldo	J. T. Weeks	1 700	14 815
Total		8 588	

\* Beulah, Campville, Cedar Key, (2d Church) and Saluda, no report.

## FINANCIAL REPORT.

T. W. THOMPSON, Ch'm. Finance Com.

CHURCHES.	CASH SENT TO ASSOCIATION.		CASH REC'D. BY STATEBOARD DURING YEAR.						
	Minutes.	General Purposes.	State Missions.	Total.	Church Edifice Fund.	Home Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Ministerial Education	Total.
Campville	3 19	4 00	10 80	7 19	4 00	4 00	4 00	4 00	14 80
Eliam	2 00	2 00	36 12	4 00	20 27	20 27	20 27	60 39	60 39
Gainesville	1 00	1 00	21 75	1 00	14 15	14 15	14 15	4 00	39 90
Hickory Head	2 00	2 00	8 60	2 75	5 05	3 61	3 61	8 66	15 00
Philippi	2 75	2 00	33 37	4 00	8 03	19 73	19 73	4 00	59 17
Pleasant Grove	2 00	2 36	84 75	4 36	41 50	1 00	18 00	10 00	155 25
Providence	4 55	5 00	2 85	5 00	2 85	2 85	2 85	2 85	2 85
Saluda	5 00	1 50	1 25	2 75	1 25	1 00	1 00	1 00	2 25
Tabernacle	1 25		2 00		2 00	2 00	2 00	10	4 00
Waldo									
Flossie Motes and Minnie Sturdivant									
Judson Missionary Band.									
A Sister									
Public Collection									
Total	\$23 74	\$6 36	\$201 49	\$67 20	\$45 50	\$18 08	\$82 86	\$18 00	\$362 37

Beulah and Cedar Keys, no Report.

## STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES AND PASTORS.	CLERKS AND P. O. ADDRESS.	MESSENGERS.	Present Number.	DECREASE			INCREASE			Members last Year	When Constituted.
				Diad.	Krasure.	Exclusion.	Letter.	Restored.	Experience.		
Bentah	J. Thomas Whitemess	No Report.							498	1876	
Campville	B. F. Camp	No Report.						461	1876		
Cedar Keys	R. Y. H. Thomas	No Report.						46	1859		
2d Church	Cedar Key	No Report.						3	1870		
Eliam	E. B. Lane	G. W. Hall, T. W. Thompson	147	3	4	7	1	1	117	1876	
Gainesville	Melrose	J. S. Griner, Henry Mizell	81	1	3	1	1	1	114	1876	
Gainesville	L. J. Halsted	Robt. McClellan	15	2	3	1	1	1	114	1876	
Hickory Head	W. B. Goggin	L. J. Halsted	72	1	2	1	1	1	114	1876	
Hickory Head	Grahamville	None.							96	1840	
Phillipi	R. C. Martin	T. F. Avant							30	1876	
Pleasant Grove	Geo. W. Riles	H. R. Williams							30	1876	
Providence	James A. Turner	P. Woodward	116	2	1	1	1	1	116	1876	
Providence	McMeekin	B. R. Moseley	186	1	1	1	1	1	186	1876	
Providence	James A. Turner	N. T. King	30						30	1876	
Sacuda	Wm. Adams	H. M. King							4	1876	
Tabernacle	Wm. T. Simmons	W. S. Perry	107	4	1	2	2	2	107	1840	
Tabernacle	Campville	Elias Earle	35						35	1876	
Waldo	Jacksonville	S. K. Leavitt, J. D. McKinly							4	1840	
Waldo	W. H. Donaldson	Mrs. S. K. Leavitt, W. S. Birch							4	1840	
Waldo	Waldo	W. N. Chandoin							4	1840	
B. R. Moseley	Waldo	J. T. Weeks							30	1876	
Total											
4044											

\* From last year's Minutes.