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MINUTES

—OF THE—

Fortieth Annual Session

—OF THE—

Santa Fe River Baptist Association,

—HELD WITH THE—

Perseverance Church, Near Alachua, Florida,

October 20, 21 and 22, A. D. 1896.

OFFICERS.

R. B. WEEKS Moderator Hawthorn, Fla.
GEORGE T. LEITNER Clerk Hawthorn, Fla.
T. W. THOMPSON Treasurer Hope, Fla.

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GEORGE T. LEITNER.....	Clerk.....	Hawthorn, Fla.
T. W. THOMPSON.....	Treasurer.....	Hope, Fla.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

R. B. WEEKS.....	Hawthorn, Fla.
T. W. THOMPSON.....	Hope, Fla.
H. T. MURPHY.....	Alachua, Fla.
E. E. STOKES.....	Campville, Fla.
S. T. BURNETT.....	LaCrosse, Fla.

OCALA, FLA.

WITNESS BOOK AND JOB PRINT.
1896.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

1. Introductory Sermon.
2. Association called to order.
3. Reading letters and enrolling names of delegates.
4. Call for petitionary letters.
5. Election of officers
6. Invite visiting brethren to seats.
7. Call for correspondents.
8. Appointment of committees.
9. Report of committees.
10. Election of Messengers to Southern Baptist Convention and State Convention.
11. Ministers' Relief Association.
12. Miscellaneous business.
13. Adjournment.

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

R. W. Jones.....	LaCrosse, Fla.
P. W. Corr	Hampton, Fla.
G. W. Riles	McMeekin, Fla.
E. A. Holt	Island Grove, Fla.
N. T. King.....	Hampton, Fla.
George T. Leitner.....	Hawthorn, Fla.
W. T. Hundley.....	Gainesville, Fla.
H. M. King.....	Gainesville, Fla.
J. M. Deveneau	Gainesville, Fla.
John Deveneau.....	Gainesville, Fla.
Paul Gallaher.....	.96 River street, Boston, Mass.

LICENTIATES.

Robert McClellan	Gainesville, Fla.
T. J. Fowler	Melrose, Fla.
H. T. Murphy	Alachua, Fla.
T. J. Culpepper.....	Rochelle, Fla.
P. D. Cox	LaCrosse, Fla.

MINUTES.

ALACHUA, FLA., October 20, 1896.

The Santa Fe River Baptist Association met today with the Perseverance Church, near Alachua, Fla., at 11 a m.

The Introductory Sermon was preached by Rev. R. W. Jones, from Rom. viii. 1, after which the Association adjourned to 1 p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Association called to order at 1 p m. Prayer by Rev. G W. Riles. Letters from the churches called for and read by Brethren G. W. Riles and R. W. Jones, and the names of the following messengers enrolled:

LaCROSSE—R W Jones, H. T. Murphy, J. E. Futch.

OCHWILLA—By letter.

HARMONY—By letter

HAWTHORN—R B. Weeks, G. W. Riles, Walter Ward, George T. Leitner, Miss Estelle Weeks.

ROCHELLE—By letter.

PERSEVERANCE—W. T. Hodges, L. B. Rawles, W. K. Watson.

HAMPTON—E. J. King.

ELIAM—T. W. Thompson, L. M. Baldwin, H. T. Fowler.

CAMPVILLE—By letter.

GAINESVILLE—By letter.

WALDO—

ORANGE CREEK—

The Association proceeded to the election of officers. The ballot resulted in the choice of R. B. Weeks as Moderator, George T. Leitner as Clerk, and T. W. Thompson as Treasurer.

Correspondents were called for, when the following brethren responded:

S. S. Proctor from Beulah Association.

G S. Crosby from Marion Association.

E. H. Renolds from Alachua Association; and also representing the Historical Association.

S. H. Burnett, New River Association.

J. C. Porter, representing the Florida Baptist Witness.

Miss May A Taylor, member of the Advisory Board of the Woman's Work, reporter, correspondents and visitors were welcomed by the Moderator.

The Moderator appointed the following committees:

ON RELIGIOUS EXERCISES—Pastor and deacons of Perseverance church and H. T. Fowler.

ON NOMINATIONS—J. E. Futch, W. K. Watson.

ON PUBLICATIONS—R. W. Jones, L. M. Baldwin.

ON MISSIONS—J. C. Porter, G. T. Leitner.

ON WOMAN'S WORK—G. S. Crosby, R. W. Jones, Miss Estelle Weeks.

ON THE SPIRITUAL CONDITION OF THE CHURCHES—T. W. Thompson, Walter Ward.

ON EDUCATION—George T. Leitner, R. W. Jones.

ON DECEASED MINISTERS AND DEACONS—H. T. Fowler, Walter Ward.

ON TEMPERANCE—G. W. Riles, W. K. Watson.

ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS—G. W. Riles, H. J. Fowler.

ON FINANCE—T. W. Thompson, J. E. Futch, L. B. Rawles.

ON LETTERS AND QUERIES—L. B. Rawles, E. J. King.

ON MINISTERS' RELIEF ASSOCIATION—George T. Leitner.

The Committee on Religious Exercises reported no preaching tonight; George T. Leitner to preach tomorrow at 11 a. m. E. H. Renolds gave an address on his work.

The Association adjourned to meet Wednesday at 9 a. m. Prayer by G. S. Crosby.

WEDNESDAY MORNING SESSION.

The Association was called to order by the Moderator at 9:15 a. m. Prayer by J. C. Porter. The minutes were read and approved. The Association proceeded to the regular order of business. Report of committees called for.

On Temperance.

The Committee on Temperance made the following report, which was discussed by G. W. Riles, S. S. Proctor, G. S. Crosby and R. B. Weeks:

We, your Committee on Temperance, beg to submit the following: In speaking of an evil so broad-spread, it is hardly possible for us to render a report full enough on this occasion to arouse the attention and co-operation of the brethren and sisters of this Association. As ambassadors

for Christ it is our duty to stigmatize with the most utter condemnation the use and legalizing of the sale thereof, even by those whom Christ hath purchased with his own blood, and commanded, saying, "Be ye temperate in all things." And when we look at the effects of drunkenness, which is not confined to any particular class of the human family, but is found among the rich and poor, the high and low, learned and ignorant, yea, among Christians as well as among the unconverted, then summing up the vast amount paid into the coffers of the saloon men of our country by the intemperate class, together with the heart-rending cries and sufferings of the poor women and children, it does seem to us that it ought to call forth a greater effort upon the part of the Christian people of our country for its suppression and condemnation.

G. W. RILES.

W. K. WATSON.

Report adopted.

The Committee on Woman's Work reported, and the report was discussed by G. S. Crosby, J. C. Porter and S. S. Proctor.

On Woman's Work.

Your Committee on Woman's Work beg to make the following report: Woman, in all ages of the church, has been most helpful in advancing the cause of her Lord and Master. "She hath done what she could" came from the lips of her Redeemer, and it has been one of the great incentives that have caused her to daily press forward in Christian work. The apostle saw that woman needed the assistance of man; hence he said, "Help those women that labor with me in the gospel." In our churches we find the greatest energies put forward by our sisters. They are ever found holding up their pastors' hands, encouraging them both by their examples and their prayers. Our churches are receiving greatest help in raising funds by our women. We find that under the wise and faithful leadership of our sister, Miss J. L. Spaulding, our sisters are pushing the work; and we urge upon our pastors and churches the great necessity of assisting our women in their great work. Organize, in every church, women for women's work in the bounds of this Association.

G. S. CROSBY

R. W. JONES.

MISS ESTELLE WEEKS.

Report adopted.

The Committee on Sunday Schools made the following report, which was discussed by G. W. Riles and George T. Leitner:

On Sunday Schools

Your committee note with pleasure that nearly all the churches in the Association report Sunday schools. There is no better method for developing the minds and hearts of the children than that of studying the word of God, which is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth. Therefore we would urge upon every church in this Association to foster and maintain a Sunday school, not only for the benefit of the children, but for every member of the church, that they may be thoroughly furnished unto every good work, and able to give a reason for the hope which they have in Christ Jesus for eternal salvation.

G. W. RILES,
H. J. FOWLER.

Report adopted.

The Committee on Religious Exercises made the following report: G. W. Riles to preach tonight at 7 p. m.

The hour for preaching having arrived, George T. Leitner preached from Jude 20, after which the Association adjourned until 1 p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Association was called to order by the Moderator. Prayer by R. W. Jones. The Committee on Deceased Ministers and Deacons made the following report:

On Deceased Ministers and Deacons.

Your committee, after examining the letters, find that they report neither the death of a minister or deacon; for which we are most thankful to our Heavenly Father, who has so graciously preserved the lives of our faithful workers.

H. J. FOWLER,
WALTER WARD.

Report adopted.

On Publications.

The Committee on Publications made the following report, which was discussed by R. W. Jones, George T. Leitner, S. S. Proctor, G. W. Riles and J. C. Porter:

Your committee submit the following report: We feel

assured that the minds of the youth of our land are reaching out after something, and the wicked adversary is always on hand with his literature, ready to crowd it into the minds of our children. We do feel that it is the duty of every follower of Christ to see that there is that class of literature placed in our homes that is best calculated to guide children aright. And we recommend the Florida Baptist Witness as indispensable, and it should be found in the home of every Baptist, as it is defending the doctrine and principles of our denomination; also the Foreign Mission Journal, the publications of the American Baptist Publication Society and the series published by the Southern Baptist Convention. God set life and death before the world. But we that set unsound literature before our children place before them that which is hurtful. Let us awake to the interest of our children in keeping hurtful literature out of their way. We also find that some of the books of our public schools are often unfit for our children, containing unsound fables. We do think that we should watch and pray.

R. W. JONES,
L. M. BALDWIN.

On Education.

The Committee on Education made their report, which was discussed by George T. Leitner, S. S. Proctor and J. C. Porter.

Education is the means by which the brain is developed and the mind broadened. And we note with pleasure the increased interest among our people in education, and with the fast multiplying facilities for securing an education there seems hardly an excuse for one failing to better equip himself for the great duty of citizenship. As your Committee on Education last year aptly said, "Education in its most comprehensive sense embraces the full and harmonious development of the whole man—the physical, the intellectual and the spiritual." Therefore the young man or woman, in fitting themselves for their life work, should only enter that school in which the influence of the Great Teacher makes itself felt. Thank God, our parents, too, are demanding such advantages for the intellectual culture of their children as will best honor and glorify God. To the young men entering the ministry we would say, take advantage of the very best opportunity offered to secure an education, remembering that an educated people demand an educated leader. Therefore, coupled with a di-

vine call to the ministry, let us take strong grounds for ministerial education, and render our aid and prayers to this end.

GEORGE T. LEITNER
R. W. JONES.

Report adopted.

The Association elected Rev George T. Leitner as delegate to the Southern Baptist Convention, and G W. Riles as alternate. The following were elected delegates to the State Convention: R. B Weeks, P W. Corr, G W. Riles, R. W. Jones, H. M King, T. W. Hundley, George T. Leitner, T. W. Thompson, H. T. Murphy, H C. Parker.

The Committee on Religious Exercises reported G. T. Leitner to preach tomorrow at 11 o'clock a. m.

The Association adjourned to meet at 9 a. m. tomorrow. Prayer by G. W. Riles. Preaching at 7 p. m. by G. W. Riles, from 1 Kings xviii 20

THIRD DAY—MORNING SESSION.

The Association was called to order by the Moderator at 9 a. m. Prayer by H. T. Murphy. Minutes read and approved.

On Nominations.

We recommend that H. M King preach the Introductory Sermon at our next annual meeting, and that the next meeting of the Association be held with the Hawthorn church Tuesday after the third Sunday in October, 1897.

J. E. FUTCH
W. K. WATSON.

Report adopted.

On Finance.

The Committee on Finance made the following report:

CHURCHES.	MISSIONS.	ASSOCIATION.
Ochwilla		\$ 2 00
LaCrosse		3 75
Perseverance		2 00
Harmony	\$ 1 75	1 75
Rochelle		1 00
Hampton		1 40
Hawthorn		6 00
Elliam		2 15
Campville		1 80
Waldo		
Gainesville		
Orange Creek		
Collection		6 16
Total.....	\$ 1 75	\$28 02

J. E. FUTCH, T. W. THOMPSON, L. B. RAWLES.

On the Spiritual Condition of the Churches.

The committee made the following report, which was discussed by S S Proctor and R. B. Weeks:

Your committee have carefully examined the letters from the several churches. We find that the Harmony church of Gainesville has disbanded. We find only 14 baptisms reported and 29 received by letter. The loss more than balances the gain. And we fear for the spiritual condition of the churches, and would urge upon the delegates present, as well as absent brethren, to pray to the Lord for a great spiritual outpouring during the incoming Associational year.

T. W. THOMPSON.
WALTER WARD.

Report adopted.

On Letters and Queries.

Your committee find that the Harmony church of Gainesville has dissolved, and that the church at Hawthorn ask that the next meeting of this body convene with them. We regret very much that so many of the churches failed to be represented at the present meeting of the Association.

L. B. RAWLES.
E. T. KING.

Report adopted.

The following were elected as an Executive Committee: R. B Weeks, S.T. Bennett, H. T Murphy, T. W. Thompson, E. E. Stokes

On Missions.

The Committee on Missions made the following report, which was discussed by S. S. Proctor, George T. Leitner, T. W. Thompson and R. B. Weeks:

Our mission work is arranged under three heads or departments, namely: Foreign, Home and State Missions. The Foreign Board, located at Richmond, Va, is in charge of all the foreign work. It has in its employment many consecrated men and women, who are laboring faithfully in the various foreign fields for the salvation of the heathen. This work is growing. The outlook for the conversion of the heathen was never so bright as at present. The Board is in debt, and funds are needed. Let all our churches do more for foreign missions. The Home Board, located at Atlanta, Ga, has charge of all the work on the home

field. It covers the territory of the Southern Baptist Convention, together with the island of Cuba. This board has about 400 missionaries employed. For this department funds are badly needed. Let us help our Home Board in its grand work. Our State Board is located at Ocala, and is looking after the mission work in our State. It has about 40 missionaries at work, and the Lord is blessing their labors in the salvation of souls; and let us increase our contributions to the glorious work. J. C. PORTER.
G. T. LEITNER

Report adopted.

Resolved, That any brother of this Association attending any other sister Association be requested to act as correspondent.

Resolved, That the heartfelt thanks of this Association be extended to the pastor and members of Perseverance church, and all other friends, for their kind reception and bountiful hospitality.

Resolved, That the Clerk have the usual number of Minutes printed and he be paid \$12 for his services, and the Treasurer pay the same out of any fund in his possession.

Preaching by Rev. George T. Leitner from Prov ii 24

Resolved, That we adjourn to meet with the Hawthorn church, at Hawthorn, on Tuesday after the third Sunday in October, 1897.

The Minutes were read and approved. The hymn, "God Be with You till We Meet Again," was sung. Prayer by G. S. Crosby, and the Santa Fe River Association stood adjourned.

R. B. WEEKS, Moderator.

GEORGE T. LEITNER, Clerk.

CONSTITUTION.

1. This Association shall be called the Santa Fe River Baptist Association.

2. This Association shall be composed of messengers from Baptist churches, of which they must be members, maintaining the Gospel discipline, and who must present letters from their respective churches certifying to their election as messengers.

3. The object of this Association shall be the reunion of the churches, the promotion of the true gospel, and the dissemination of Bible truth.

4. This Association shall meet annually, on the first day of which meeting it shall elect, by ballot, a Moderator, a Clerk and a Treasurer.

5. Any Baptist church newly organized may become a member of this Association by a letter petitioning for membership and giving information concerning organization and presbytery and by whom organized. Any church coming from another Association may become a member of this Association by presenting petitionary letter, accompanied by a letter of dismissal from the Association from which it comes.

6. This admits the right of any one of the churches comprising it to withdraw by application for a letter without assigning any reason for so doing. At the same time, this Association claims the right to withdraw from any church which departs from the principles of this compact by becoming heterodox in faith or disorderly in practice.

7. This Association shall be deemed an advisory council and shall treat the churches composing it as independent bodies in all matters of self-government, and shall at no time interfere with their rights.

8. This Association shall have an Executive Committee of five, of which the Treasurer shall be a member ex officio. The other four members shall be elected annually by the Association, no two members being from the same church. Three shall constitute a quorum for business. The Executive Committee shall elect its own chairman and secretary and shall have power to fill vacancies.

9. The Associational Mission work shall be under the control and supervision of the Executive Committee, and all missionaries shall make quarterly reports to them whenever called upon to do so.

10. All churches shall be entitled to two messengers for the first fifty members and one additional messenger for each twenty-five members after the first fifty and for the major fraction thereof.

11 It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive and disburse all funds of the Association, but only by order of the Association or Executive Committee.

12. This Constitution may be amended at any regular meeting of the Association, by a two-thirds vote of the messengers present.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES AND PASTORS.	CLERKS AND POST OFFICES.	DELEGATES.	When Constituted..	Number Last Year..	Baptized	Received by Letter..	Dismissed by Letter	Restored	Excluded	Dead	Present Membership
Campville.....G. T. Leitner	B. F. Camp.	By Letter.....	1882	60	1	4	5	1	2	1	59
Ellam.....H. M. King	E. B. Sane	T. W. Thompson, H. J. Fowler, L. B. Baldwin.	1859	156	1	1	1	1	1	1	164
Gainesville.....W. T. Hundley	Jos. E. Waugh	By Letter.....	1870	133	2	13	8	1	1	1	127
Hawthorn.....G. T. Leitner	J. J. Gedwin	G. W. Riles, R. B. Weeks, E. W. Ward, Establin Weeks.	1853	202	2	7	12	2	2	2	194
Hampton.....R. F. Rogers	I. C. Casen	E. King	1801	70	1	10	9	1	1	1	75
LaCrosse.....S. P. Cator	R. K. Joiner	R. W. Jones, W. T. Murphy, J. E. Futch.	1885	59	1	10	2	1	1	1	61
Perseverance.....R. B. Cator	R. J. Haddock	R. W. Jones, W. T. Murphy, J. E. Futch.	1890	42	11	1	1	1	1	1	56
Rochelle.....R. B. Cator	A. J. Hammontry	Hodge, L. B. Rawls, W. K. Watson	1870	21	1	1	1	1	1	1	18
Ochwill.....R. B. Mosher	Jos. Hammontry	By Letter.....	1873	54	1	1	1	1	1	1	53
Orange Creek.....G. W. Riles	Jos. Engle	By Letter.....	1864	63	1	1	1	1	1	1	63*
Waldo.....N. A. Bailey	L. C. Doane	By Letter.....	1876	55	1	1	1	1	1	1	55*
Totals.....	.....	.....	.....	973	16	46	45	5	13	11	925

* Those marked * taken from last year's Minutes.

