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PHILADELPHIA: 1420 Chestnut Street;

BOSTON: 256 Washington Street, and 14 Tremont Temple;

NEW YORK: 9 Murray Street;

CHICAGO: 122 Wabash Avenue;

ST. LOUIS: 1109 Olive Street.

MINUTES

—OF THE—

FORTY-SECOND ANNUAL SESSION

—OF THE—

WEST FLORIDA BAPTIST

ASSOCIATION

—HELD WITH THE—

Chipley Baptist Church,

Washington County, Florida,

OCTOBER 19 AND 20, 1888.

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ORDAINED MINISTERS.

T E Langley,	-	Chipley, Fla.
E D Nelson,	-	"
D W Creamer,	-	"
John Stuart,	-	Marianna, Fla.
J W Johnson	-	Campbellton, Fla.
Robert Harris,	-	"
John White,	-	Garrod, Ala.
W A Bryan,	-	Vernon, Fla.
C S Russ	-	Abe's Spring, Fla.
W D Simpson	-	Cypress, Fla.
Lewis Daniels,	-	Sneads, Fla.
Geo Crofton	-	Miller's Ferry,
R C B Lawrence	-	Dellwood, Fla.

LICENSED MINISTERS.

J E Nixon,	-	Vernon, Fla.
James Cutchin,	-	Cottdendale, Fla.
W W Weeks,	-	"
John Long,	-	Campbellton, Fla.
J F. Richardson	-	Miller's Ferry, Fla.
L T Kingly,	-	"
D T Bridges,	-	Cottdendale Fla.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

- 1 Call for Petitory Letters.
- 2 Invite visiting brethren to seats with us.
- 3 Call for correspondents.
- 4 Appoint committees on preaching, nominations, publications, deceased ministers, Sabbath schools, missions, documents, temperance and finance.
- 5 Arrange for meeting and adjourning.
- 6 Appoint correspondents.
- 7 Elect Executive Committee and Treasurer.
- 8 Elect delegates to State Convention.
- 9 Call for report of standing committees: 1st, executive committee; 2nd, missions; 3d, finance; 4th, temperance; 5th, Sabbath schools; 6th, education.
- 10 Call for report of treasurer.
- 11 Call for report on documents.
- 12 Call for report on publications.
- 13 Call for report on deceased ministers.
- 14 Call for report on nominations.
- 15 Appoint general meetings.
- 16 Appoint time and place for next meeting.
- 17 Read and adopt the minutes.
- 18 Adjournment.

OFFICERS.

T. E. LANGLEY, Moderator, Chipley, Fla.
 W. M. FARRIOR, Clerk, Campbellton, Fla.
 E. N. DEKLE, Treasurer,

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

(1886-7.)

E. N. DEKLE, D. H. HORNE, N. L. CONNELL, A. BEVIS, J. LYNN

*CHIPLEY, FLORIDA.**October, 19, 1888.*

THE WEST FLORIDA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, met with the Church at Chipley, Florida, in its Forty-second annual session, Friday morning, October 19, 1888.

Brother Simpson failing to be present at this hour, the Introductory sermon was preached by Brother J. W. Johnson. Text.

After preaching, it was announced that refreshments would be prepared on the grounds, and every one invited to partake. One and a half hour's intermission was granted

Evening Session.

Promptly at the hour, the body met in the Church house, and was called to order by Rev. T. E. Langley, former Moderator. After singing "Am I a soldier of the Cross," and prayer by Rev. Wm. A Cumbie, the Moderator stated that the body was ready for business. Upon motion, the Moderator announced the Committee on Preaching, as follows:

A. Bevis, G. W. Rawls and Chipley delegation.

Upon request of the Moderator, the letters from the several churches were handed in, and the following brethren called upon to read them: R. D. Burrows, E. N. Dekle, J. D. Farrior, and Wm. Bryan.

Delegates were enrolled as follows:

BETHLEHEM, G W Rawls, S M Griffie.
CEDAR POND, H C Neal, W H Bevis, T J Booth.
CAMPBELLTON, E N Dekle, W M Farrior.
CHIPLEY, D H Horne, J C Collier, T R Forester.
CHIPOLA LAKE, N L Connell, James A Connell.
CIRCLE HILL, D M Hewett, W L Sheppard.
COTTONDALE, R A Waldens.
DAMASCUS, R R Rich, M H K Yorke, T Crutchfield.
DELLWOOD, H L Green, P F Messer, Jack Hamilton.
ECONFINA, J E Nixon, D L Horne, Jr. W B Gainer.
EBENEZER JM Simmons Jr, JE Simmons, HC Hickman
EPHESUS, J F D Richter, Daniel Whitehead.
FRIENDSHIP, Joseph Lynn, John Stephens M L Hart.
GREENWOOD, A Bevis, E C Horne.
GREENFIELD, Isaac Shores.
GRASSY POINT, By Letter.
GREEN HEAD, A Posey, A E Posey.
HICKORY LEVEL, S Pumphrey.
MOUNT WAYFAIR, J F Bradbury, W L Peacock.
MOUNT OLIVE, Oscar Scott.
MAGNOLIA, L T Messer, J W Bailey, D T Bailey.
NEWHARMONY, Robert Spivey, Jos. Gorrod.

ORANGE HILL, P M Peel.
 PROVIDENCE, Z Johnson.
 PINEY GROVE, W H Creamer, T J Creamer.
 PILGRIM'S REST, W T Thomas, James Howard.
 POPLAR SPRGS, L R Waite J R Dykes, J W Simmons
 PROVIDENCE (Freeport), G W Davis
 PONCE D-LEON, W D Stephens D Hughes T T Thomas
 SNEADS, Jno. McCreamey.
 WESTVILLE, T G Lang.

After enrollment of the delegates, the following officers were elected by acclamation to-wit: T. E. Langley, Moderator; W. M. Farris, Clerk.

The Committee on Preaching, made the following report: Rev. W. A. Bryan, 8 p. m.; Rev. John Stuart, Saturday, 11 a. m.; Rev. W. D. Simpson, 8 p. m.; Rev. W. A. Cumbie, Sunday, 11 a. m.; T. G. Lang, 8 p. m.

Call for petinary letters. The following were handed in: Providence, Greenfield, Ponce DeLeon, Mt Wayfair, St Andrews Bay and Cottondale. Upon motion, after the letters were read, they were received into the Association.

Call for visiting brethren. J. N. Skinner responded, Columbia Association; S. W. Lock, Rev. J. D. Deal, Correspondents; W. P. Stuart, from S. W. Association; W. A. Cumbie from Newton Association.

Upon motion, the Moderator was allowed time for appointment of Standing Committees. Resolved, that the body adjourn at 4 p. m. and meet at 9:30 a. m. Correspondents enrolled to the following Associations: Newton, T. G. Lang, J L Crutchfield; Columbia, J W Johnson, James Stephens, D W Creamer; S. W. Association, Z Johnson, John Stuart, J W Johnson, Zack Messer, Mathew Weston; Geneva, Robert Harris, W A Bryan, T G Lang, J W Johnson, W A Duncan.

Adjourned to Saturday, 9:30 a. m.

After preaching by Rev. W. A. Bryan, from text found in Mathew, 25-40, the Moderator announced the following committees:

Nominations, J C Collier, Z Messer, J G D Richter.

Publications, J M Stephens, G R Forrester, James Howard.
 Deceased Ministers, John Stuart, D Whitehead, R B Rich.
 Sabbath Schools, E C Horan, W T Thomas, James Connell.
 Missions, H C Neal, D H Horne.
 Documents, W A Bryan, J W Johnson, R A Walding.
 Temperance, T G Lang, David Hughes, T J Creamer.
 Finance, E N Dekle, J Lynn, N L Connell.

Saturday, 9:30 A: M.

Devotional exercises conducted by Moderator; prayer by W. M. Farris.

Upon motion, the same Executive Committee was elected by acclamation: E N Dekle, D H Horne, N L Connell, J Lynn

Upon motion, T E Langley was-elected delegate to the State Conventon, W M Farris, alternate.

Upon motion of Col. D H Horne, the regular order of business was suspended, for the purpose of having one delegate from each church, to meet with the Executive Committee, to attend to some important business.

APPOINTMENT OF GENERAL MEETINGS.

S. E. District to meet with Sardis, on Friday before the fifth Sunday.

S. W. District, to meet with Bethlehem, at same time.

N. E. District, to meet with Cedar Pond, at same time.

N. W. District, to meet with Campbellton, at same time.

Report on Association read by J. C. Collier, appointing Rev. T. E. Langley to preach the Introductory sermon at its next session.

The body adjourned for preaching at 11 a. m., to meet at 1:30 p. m.

After services it was announced that refreshments would be prepared on the ground and all were invited to partake.

EVENING SESSION.

Promptly at 1:30, the body reassembled and resumed

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business. Report on Temperance read and adopted, after being discussed by W. A. Bryan and others.

Report on Documents read and adopted.

Upon motion, letters of dismission were granted to six churches, viz: Providence, Sardis, Mt Olive, Dellwood, Snead's and Magnolia. After discussion it was decided, by ballot that the Association hold its next session with the church at Damascus, on Friday, before the 3d Sunday in October 1889.

Report of the Executive Committee. Adopted.

Report on Missions. Read and adopted.

Report on Finance. Adopted.

T. G. Lang offered the following resolution of thanks, which was adopted.

RESOLVED:—That the thanks of this Association be tendered our worthy Moderator and Clerk for the faithful and impartial manner in which they have discharged the arduous duties imposed upon them.

Also to the citizens of Chipley and vicinity, for the christian hospitality extended to the members of this body during our official stay among them; that the thanks of the members of this body be also tendered to the Methodist brethren for the use of their house of worship.

Report of Missionary, W. A. Bryan, was read and adopted.

Report of R. Harris, who did volunteer mission work; read and adopted.

W. M. Fairior offered the following:

RESOLVED:—That the subject of education be enrolled on the list of "Order of Business."

RESOLVED:—That the Clerk be paid \$15.00 for his services, also have eight hundred Minutes printed to the best advantage of the Association.

RESOLVED:—That the funds of the Association be turned over to the discretion of the Executive Committee.

The minutes of the proceedings of the body were read and approved, and after prayer by W. A. Cumbie, the Association adjourned.

T. E. LANGLEY, Mod.

W. M. FARRIOR, Clerk.

Report on Publications: Your Committee know of nothing new to recommend to you in the way of publications

more than has been insisted upon in former meetings. We can only urge upon our brethren the importance of subscribing to and reading our State Organ, the "Baptist Witness," for we deem it necessary that it should be read by every member of these Baptist churches. We would insist upon the use of the Lesson Papers of the American Baptist Publication Society, in our Sunday Schools. We also call attention to the "Christian Index" and "Foreign Mission Journal."

J. M. STEPHENS, Ch'n.

REPORT ON DOCUMENTS.

Your Committee state that they find six churches asking for letters of dismission from this body, namely: Providence, Sardis, Mt Olive, Dellwood, Snead's and Magnolia. Letters of dismission were granted. We find seven petitionary letters for admission into this body, namely; Ponce de Leon, Greenfield, Cottdale, Westville, St Andrews Bay, Providence (at Freeport), and Wayfair. Petitions granted. Four churches Friendship, Cedar Pond, Ebenezer and Piney Grove, ask that this Association hold its next session with them. We have failed to learn from the letter from St Andrews Bay, whether or not the church endorses our Articles of Faith and rules of Practice, and recommend an investigation of the matter.

J. W. JOHNSON, Ch'n.

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

Your Committee feel thankful to God for what has been accomplished in the great temperance reform, under His Divine direction, through the instrumentality of his faithful servants. But there remains much land to be yet possessed. We are satisfied that the programme of the past, is the programme for the future. The time has been when the friends of total abstinence were almost afraid to declare their sentiments, but a better order of things has dawned upon the world. By the unwearied efforts of faithful brethren, moving, in the fear of God, the public mind has been schooled up to a higher standard of morality, and through the same channel

must we look for the triumph of our cause in the future. Brethren be up and doing. Let every member of Christ's church advocate continually the cause of temperance and prohibition. For in this way alone will it ever triumph. The experience of the past teaches us that men are very reluctant to act on the question of prohibition until they are fully convinced of the evils of intemperance, and thus see the absolute need of prohibition as the only remedy.

T. G. LANG, Ch'n.

REPORT ON MISSIONS.

Your Committee on Missions, feeling and realizing the importance of the spread of the gospel, would urge upon our people the necessity of contributing a part of the means which have been so generously bestowed upon us, in furtherance of this cause. Brethren, when we take into consideration the fact that within the bounds of this Association there are many places of destitution, besides churches already organized without pastors, it is enough to nerve us to redoubled efforts, and should stimulate every one in giving a portion of their means, though small and insignificant they may appear to us, in spreading the glorious gospel of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. We are, however, glad to say, that upon conferring with the Executive Committee, we find a portion of this destitution has been supplied during the the past Associational year through the efforts of our worthy brother, W. A. Bryan. The field is large and the laborers are few. Let us hope Brethren that the prayers of the members composing the West Florida Association shall ascend to a throne of grace, as the prayer of one man, that He, who, both in Heaven and on earth, may send more laborers into this, His moral vineyard. Realizing the great responsibility resting upon us as Baptists, and that the spirit of missions should be fostered, encouraged and sustained by us as a labor of love, we close this report by recommending that a collection be taken up, and the funds arising from the same be placed in the hands of the Executive Committee. This, together with what they may already

have on hand, to assist in employing a Missionary to preach in such part of the country as they may deem most in need, inside the bounds of this Association.

H. O. NEAL, Ch'n.

REPORT OF VOLUNTEER MISSION WORK.

Commenced work the first of May in the Western part of this Association. Traveled 680 miles, preached 36 sermons, organized 3 churches, baptized 31, organized 2 Sabbath schools.

R. HARRIS

MISSIONARY REPORT.

The Executive Committee contracted with me the 16th of April to work seven months in the destitute places, in this Association, for the sum of \$100.00. I have traveled 1800 miles, preached 101 sermons, baptized 21, restored 3, received by letter 3, total addition 27. I have organized two churches, one in Cottondale, and one seven miles South of Chipley. I have received in the field \$60.00. I have received of the Committee \$65.00, total \$125.00. I have lost eight days up to this date, from the work, which I will make good. I have had assistance from Bro. R. D. Burrows in my work for which I feel grateful.

W. A. BRYAN.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

1887	Amount of funds turned over at last session	\$189 00	
	To amount paid W. A. Bryan	\$ 75 00	
	do Chevis	25 00	
	Balance on hand 1886	\$ 23 00	
	Amount paid Clerk	15 00	
	Amount paid for Minutes	26 25	
	Delegate to Convention	25 00	
	Balance on hand	\$212 00	\$166 25
		\$ 45 75	

E. N. DEKLE, Treasurer.

REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

From the small number of schools reported in the letters from the various churches, we can but form only one conclusion, and that is, that but very little interest is manifested in

that direction. We do beg the brethren to arouse up to their duty to themselves and neighbors, and insist that each one on his return to his church begin to work in that direction at once. May we not expect every church to report a school next year?

E. C. HORNE.

REPORT ON DECEASED MINISTERS.

We feel thankful that we have been spared all of our ministers another year. We feel very sad on account of the feeble condition in which we find our beloved Moderator. May our Father in Heaven restore him to health, that he may labor many years yet in the vineyard. We would ask the Association to remember brethren R. C. B. Lawrence and Osborne, in their superannuated condition.

JAMES STUART.



FINANCE REPORT.

CHURCHES	MINUTES	MISSIONS	ASS'N PURPOSES
Bethlehem		6 00	
Cedar Pond	1 50	2 90	2 00
Campbellton	1 00	16 85	2 00
Chipola Lake	1 00	10 00	
Circle Hill	50	30	
Chipley	1 50	8 70	
Cottondale	25	1 00	25
Damascus	1 50	3 85	50
Dellwood	1 00	2 85	
Ebenezer	1 60	5 00	
Econfinia	1 00	5 70	1 00
Ephesus	1 50	1 50	
Friendship	1 50	21 35	1 50
Greenwood	2 00	17 65	2 00
Grassy Point	50	2 00	
Green Head	50	2 00	
Greenfield	90	4 00	
Hickory Level	75	3 25	1 00
Mt Olive	25	25	
Magnolia	75	1 25	
New Harmony	50	2 00	
Orange Hill	25		45
Providence	1 00	3 75	1 00
Piney Grove	1 00	1 30	
Pilgrims Rest	75		1 55
Poplar Spring	75	3 00	
+ Poplar Head			
+ Point Washington			
Pleasant Hill	25	2 75	50
Ponce de Leon	1 00	5 00	
Providence	1 00		1 00
+ Rocky Grove			
Sardis	1 00	2 00	
Sneads	75	35	
St Andrews Bay	50	1 00	50
+ Unity			
Wayfair	50	2 35	
Westville	50		
General Collections		22 52	
	\$29 25	\$162 42	\$15 25

+ Not represented.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

MINUTES

CHURCHES	CLERKS	POST-OFFICE.	Baptism	Rec'd by Letter	Restored	Dead	Dismissed by letter	Excluded	Total
Bethlehem	S W Land	Cottontdale	2	2	1				36
Cedar Pond	W H Pyke	Neals Landing do					1		41
Campbellton	W M Farrow	Campbellton do							29
Chippola Lake	W L Connell	Wewahitchka do							26
Circle Hill	W L Sheppard	Haywoods Ldg do							24
Chipley	E D Farrow	Chipley do	6	3	4				21
Danzens	G B Yawn	Graceville do	10	1					110
Cottontdale	A F Thomas	Cottontdale do	3	2	1				5
Dellwood	H Green	Dellwood do							62
Ebenezer	J M Simmons	Vernon do							69
Ephesus	W B Gather	Econofina do							31
Fr endsh P	J M Christmas	Campbellton do	2	2	1				47
Greenwood	J M Stephens	Greenwood do	21	1					23
Grassy Point	T G Alsobrook	Greenwood do	17	7					19
Green Head	H Anderson	Greenwood do	2	4					22
Hickory Level	A F Posey	St Andrews do							8
Mt Olive	J P Dean	Alpine do							36
Magnolia	R J Foxworth	Chipley do							28
New Harmony	C E Scott	Marianna do	18	1	2				37
Orange Hill	Z T Messer	Ochessce do	3	3					14
	Johh Wilson	Chipola do							33
	R M Peel	Chipley do							33

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MEMORANDA:

chosen of God in Christ will be effectually called regenerated, sanctified, and supported by the spirit and power of God so that they shall persevere in grace, and not one of them be finally lost.—John x, 29, 30 vi, 37; Phil. i, 6.; 1 Pet. i, 3, 9; Heb. vi, 16, 20; John xvii, 2, 3; 2 Tim, i, 9, 10; Tit. iv, 4, 7; Eph. ii, 45; Rom. viii, 28, 31.

7. We believe that good works are the fruits of faith; that they follow after justification, and that they only justify us in the sight of men, and are only evidences of our christianity.—Eph. ii, 10; James ii, 13, iii, 13; 1 Peter ii, 3, 5; Mat. v, 16.

8. We believe there will be a resurrection of the dead, and a General Judgment and that the happiness of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal.—Mark xii, 24, 27; 2 Cor. v, 10; 1 Cor. xv, 12, 29; Acts xvii, 31; Mathew xxv, 46; John v, 28 29; Thess. i, 7, 10.

9. We believe that the Church of Christ is a visible congregation of baptized believers, who have gained, christian fellowship with each other; and that immersion is the only scriptural mode of baptism—Rom. vi.

10. We believe that Jesus Christ is the great head of His Church and only Lawgiver, and that the government is with the body; and is the privilege of each individual, and that the discipline of the church is intended for the reclamation of those christians who may be disorderly, either in principle or practice, and must be faithfully kept up for God's glory, and the peace and unity of the Church.

11. We believe that Water Baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of the Lord, and are to be continued until His second coming.

MINUTES

Total.....

36 41 29 35 24 21 110 5 02 06 31 47 06 23 19 22 8 36 28 37 14 33

MINUTES

MEMORANDA

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