

# MINUTES

OF THE

Forty-Ninth Annual Session

OF THE

## WEST FLORIDA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

HELD WITH THE CAMPBELLTON BAPTIST CHURCH, JACKSON  
COUNTY, FLA., OCT. 18, 19, AND 20, 1895.

### OFFICERS:

J. P. SMITH,

W. M. FARRIOR,

W. J. DANIEL,

MODERATOR,

CLERK.

TREASURER.

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

W. J. DANIEL,

E. N. DEKLE,

J. H. STEPHENS,

N. L. CONNELL,

J. D. FORRESTER

Next Session meets with Friendship, Jackson County, Fla., on Friday before  
the third Sunday in October, 1896.

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## ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Call for Petitionary Letters.
2. Invite Visiting Brethren to Seats with us.
3. Call for Correspondents.
4. Appointment of Committees on Preaching, Nominations, Publications, Deceased Ministers, Sabbath Schools, Missions, Documents, Temperance, Finance, Education and Ministers' Relief Association.
5. Arrange for Meeting and Adjourni:g.
6. Appoint Correspondents.
7. Elect Executive Committee and Treasurer.
8. Elect Delegates to State Convention.
9. Call for reports of Standing Committees: 1st, Executive Committee; 2nd, Missions; 3rd, 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. Ministers' Relief Association.
16. Appoint General Meetings
17. Appoint Time and Place for Next Meeting.
18. Read and Adopt Minutes.
19. Adjournment.

## ORDAINED MINISTERS.

Stephen Crockett, - Marianna;	J. W. Johnson, 1 Graceville, ✓
✓ J. P. Smith - - - Chipley;	R. C. B. Lawrence Dellwood, ✓
✓ W. P. Richardson - - - "	W. A. Bryan - Wewahitchka, ✓
✓ E. D. Nelson, - - - "	John Long - - Campbellton, ✓
✓ J. F. D. Richter - - - "	George Crofton, - Caryville, ✓
✓ William Sapp, Campbellton,	A. T. Posey, Alpine, ✓
✓ J. E. Nixon, - - Nixon,	F. S. Scott, - - Bonifay, ✓
✓ Robert Harris, - Vernon,	S. W. Lock, - Cottondale, ✓
✓ J. Deal, - - Campbellton.	T. N. Knowls, - St. Andrews, ✓
✓ J. F. Richardson, - Econfina,	L. T. Knizly, - Chipley, ✓
	D. F. Cox, Cottondale -

## LICENSED MINISTERS,

J. H. Crutchfield, Eli English, and W. McIntosh, of Graceville; W. J. Ward, of Freeport; R. E. Jordan, of Bonifay and G. B. Hughs, of Chipley, Fla.

## MINUTES.

FRIDAY, OCT. 18, 1895.

The West Florida Baptist Association met this day in Campbellton church at 11 a. m.

The Introductory Sermon was preached by Rev. W. A. Bryan, from the text: "Thou Art the Christ." After services the Moderator requested the delegates to re-assemble at 1:30. Dinner was then announced on the ground for all.

## AFTERNOON SESSION.

Rev. J. C. Porter was granted time to preach after singing and the reading of the 23rd Psalm. The subject of the sermon was the "Analogy between Pharoah and the Devil. After service a collection of \$4.00 was taken to assist in sending the *Witness* to the poor.

The letters were gathered and read by the following brethren: J. D. Forrester, T. J. Mobley, W. J. Daniels, J. L. Massey.

The following churches and delegates were enrolled:

Appalachicola—By letter.

Bethlehem—J. W. Rawls, B. T. Brookens, J. L. Massey.

Bethel—W. M. McIntosh, J. W. Richardson.

Cottondale—A. F. Thomas, D. F. Cox.

Campbellton—E. N. Dekle, J. W. Carter, D. Pybus.

Chipley—J. D. Forrester, W. C. Lockey, S. M. Robinson, J. R. McColsky, W. M. Farrow, J. P. Smith.

Cromaton—By Letter.

Caryville—A. Stucky.

Damascus—Thos. Parker, J. H. Crutchfield.

Ephesus—M. Christmas, J. T. Pilcher, J. A. Willis.

Ebenezer—W. C. Hickman, John Bruner.

Econfina—W. R. Gainer.  
 Friendship—J. M. Stephens, E. McDavid, P. H. Culpeper, J. B. Williams, J. H. Furgerson.  
 Greenwood—C. A. Boone, A. Bevis, T. Applewhite.  
 Grassy Point.—I. J. Creamer.  
 Hickory Level—Wm. Thompson.  
 Marianna—W. J. Daniel, J. W. Wilson, C. M. Messer, S. Crocket.  
 Mt. Olive—By Letter.  
 New Salem—Jno. Coley.  
 Vernon—T. J. Mobley, W. P. Roach.  
 New Harmony—G. B. Hughes.  
 Orange Hill—T. L. Daniel  
 Pilgrims' Rest—S. Wilifford, J. B. Tool.  
 Piney Grove—J. D. Cutchin, J. B. Shoals.  
 Pleasant Hill—L. W. Nixon, S. W. Lock.  
 Pleasant Ridge—G. W. Lee.  
 St. Andrews—By Letter.  
 Unity—R. C. Crofton, Lewis Hardy, Walter Evans.  
 Wewahitchka—E. Z. Taylor.  
 White Pond—M. G. Morris, James Swails.  
 Oakey Ridge—Perry Yawn, W. T. Brock.  
 Upon motion the officers were elected by ballot: J. P. Smith, Moderator, and W. M. Farrior, Clerk.  
 The Moderator appointed A. Bevis, W. P. Richardson and the delegates of Campbellton church as the Preaching committee.  
 Call for petitionary letters.  
 One was received from Caryville, and Bro. Stucky was given the right hand of fellowship in behalf of the church.  
 Call for visiting brethren.  
 J. D. Pearce, T. R. Atwell were welcomed from the Columbia Association.  
 Preaching committee announced Rev. S. Crockett to preach at Campbellton to-night, Bro. Provence at 11 a. m., Saturday and Bro. Harris at Ephesus to-night.  
 At night the Moderator announced the following committees:  
 On Nominations—T. J. Mobly, T. L. Daniel, D. Pybus, J. B. Williams.  
 On Deceased Ministers—R. Harris, G. B. Hughes, R. C. Crofton, T. J. Parker.  
 On Documents—E. Z. Taylor, T. M. Stevens.  
 On Temperance—W. C. Lockey, W. R. Gainer, Thomas Applewhite.

On Sabbath Schools—T. D. Forester, J. L. Massey, J. H. Furgerson, W. P. Roach.  
 On Missions—Stephen Crocket, S. M. Robertson, J. W. Swails.  
 On Publications—  
 On Finance—  
 On Education—W. A. Bryan, E. Dekle, G. W. Lee.

### NIGHT SERVICES.

Preaching by Rev. Stephen Crocket, from John, iii: 7, "Ye must be born again." Rev. P. Harris preached at Ephesus.

### MORNING SESSION.

Promptly at 9 a. m. the delegates assembled. Divine service was led by Brother Crocket, after the reading of the 24th Psalm, prayer was offered by Bro. W. P. Richardson. At this point the matter of the Baptist Ministers' Relief Association was presented to the consideration of the delegates. Upon motion of Bro. W. A. Bryan it was incorporated in the regular order of business and the Moderator appointed brethren W. A. Bryan, S. Crocket and R. Harris as a committee.

Time of meeting 9 a. m. till 11 a. m. 1:30 p. m. and adjourn at pleasure.

The regular order of business was suspended to seat delegates. S. M. Robinson, of Orange Hill, was given a seat as delegate from the arm of the Chipley church.

### CALL FOR CORRESPONDENCE.

To Columbia Association, R. C. Crofton; Graves Association, R. Harris, W. P. Richardson; Pensacola Association, W. A. Bryan.

Upon motion the election of the Executive committee was postponed and the following brethren were elected delegates to the State Convention; W. A. Bryan; Steven Crocket, Jake Stephens, S. M. Robinson, J. P. Smith, J. D. Forrester, A. Stucky, Wm. Sapp, J. Johnson, J. Deal.

Bro. S. Crocket was chosen delegate to Southern Baptist Association and Bro. J. P. Smith alternate.

The report on missions was set for a special order of business at the afternoon session.

The Executive committee reported that owing to the extreme cold



last Dec. no meeting was held, but that they conferred together by letter. Brethren Lock and Harris were employed for missionary work. Owing to the destitution of the Association these brethren labored at a great sacrifice to carry on the work.

Brethren Webb and Smith also labored at destitute points, but their work was reported directly to the state board. Upon motion the report was adopted.

The following report of the Treasurer, W. J. Daniels, was read and adopted :

REPORT OF TREASURER.

1894	Oct	18	Balance on hand last report.....	130	14
"	"	22	By am't received by me at last Association..	302	95
1895	July	13	By am't rec'd by State B'rd for disabled min's	19	75
				<hr/>	
1894	Oct	22	To pd Provence for State B'rd.....	46	75
"	"	30	To pd S W Lock, Missionary.....	12	00
"	Nov	3	" W M Fariior, Clerk.....	20	00
"	"	"	" " M'nstr'l Education	86	85
"	"	7	" R C B Lawrence disabled min's	12	32
"	"	"	" M Osborn, " "	12	32
"	"	19	" S W Lock, Missionary.....	12	00
"	Dec	28	" R Harris, " "	24	00
"	"	22	" R W Storrs, Printing Minutes	27	75
1895	Dec	25	" S W Lock, Missionary.....	12	00
"	July	24	" R Harris, " "	12	00
"	Feb	23	" S W Lock " "	15	00
"	Mch	13	" R Harris " "	20	00
"	Apr	17	" S W Lock " "	15	00
"	June	19	" " " "	7	50
"	July	29	" R Harris " "	17	50
"	July	6	" S W Lock " "	7	50
"	Aug	10	" M Osborn, Disabled min's..	9	88
"	Aug	15	" S W Lock, Missionary.....	7	50
"	Oct	21	" " " "	7	50
"	Sep	16	" R C B Lawrence Dis min's	9	87
"	Oct	5	" L W Lock Missionary.....	7	50
"	"	"	" R Harris, " "	30	00
"	"	17	Balance due Association.....	20	10
				<hr/>	
				\$452	84

REPORT ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

The following report on Sabbath Schools was read by J. D. Forrester: Your committee beg to report the following: After examining the letters from the various churches, we find that there is no increase in the number of schools, for which we are sorry. Yet, we find those schools which are reported, to be on the upward grade and doing more effective work than heretofore; yet much remains in that line to be done. We therefore urge and insist that the churches which have no schools never rest until they all have good flourishing schools, and we all hope that the parents of the children will attend the Sunday schools, for we know that it is while they are young that the most lasting impressions are made.

We hope for better reports from the churches next year.

J. D. FORRESTER,  
J. L. MASSEY  
J. H. FURGERSON,  
W. P. ROACH.

After remarks by J. D. Forrester, J. D. Pearce, E. Z. Taylor, A. Bevis, S. M. Provence, Wm. Sapp, Steven Crocket, J. M. Matthews, the report was adopted.

Adjourned for preaching by Rev. S. M. Provence. The text was John, i, 18—"The only begotten Son."

AFTERNOON SESSION.

At 1:30 the delegates assembled, after singing, Dr. Chandoin led in prayer.

Rev. S. Crocket read the following:

REPORT ON MISSIONS.

The Master himself has brought the work of missions into prominence by the gift of himself to redeem the souls of mankind. He also said to his disciples: "Go ye unto all the world and preach the Gospel, beginning at Jerusalem." The work of missions takes in the entire world, Foreign missions and Home missions are inter-related—they are one.

We, your committee, therefore suggest that the pastors in the Association urge the members of their churches to assist in the work of missions by contributions toward the support of missionary points within the bounds of the Association and to the home and foreign mission boards of

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our Southern Baptist Convention, and all funds contribute! be sent through Rev. W. N. Chandoin, at La Grange, Fla. We would also impress upon our members the necessity of rightly informing themselves upon the subject of missions at home and abroad by reading the *Mission Journal*, the publication of which has been authorized by the Southern Baptist Convention.

Respectfully submitted by the com.

STEPHEN CROCKET,  
C. A. BOONE,  
S. M. ROBERTSON,  
J. W. SWALS.

After some remarks by Dr. Chandoin, a collection of \$14 15 was taken, and the following pledges made for Dr. Chandoin:

R. Harris,.....	\$ 4 00
G. W. Nixon,.....	1 00
W. A. Bryan,.....	12 00
Geo. F. Gainer,.....	1 00
S. W. Lock,.....	4 00
W. M. Farrior,.....	1 00
W. R. Gainer,.....	2 00
G. W. Hughes, for New Harmony,.....	3 00

Report on Education was announced for 9 a. m. Report on Divine Service:

Bro. Daugherty, at Ephesus to-night; Bro. Bryan, at Campbellton to-night; Bro. Chandoin, 11 a. m.; Bro. Provence, at School House at 11 a. m., to-morrow.

The following report was read by W. C. Lockey:

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

We, your committee on Temperance, find upon enquiry that some slight progress has been made, but much is yet to be done.

We are sorry to announce that in spite of the diligent work done by our colored Baptist brethren, the result is far from satisfactory, as shown by their report.

We would make the following recommendation. 1st. That any member of a Baptist church signing a bar-room petition, drinking to drunkenness, or in any way encouraging this most powerful enemy to religion, this source of crime, poverty, degradation, ignorance and super-

*penitentiaries*

stition. Filling our jails, penitentiaries, poor-houses and insane asylum and wrecking the homes of our land. That such inconsistent members be subject to strict church discipline.

2nd. Since drinking intoxicants is not the only form of intemperance which proves a drawback to the christian, and which is condemned by our Lord, we should strive to be more temperate in all things.

Since no drunkard can enter heaven, let us double our efforts to put down this evil—sure of the help which is sufficient for all things.

W. C. LOCKEY,  
W. R. GAINER,  
THOS. APPLEWHITE.

After remarks by Dr. Chandoin, Brethren Pearce, A. Bevis, J. D. Forrester, W. P. Richardson, R. C. Crofton and S. M. Provence the report was adopted.

R. Harris was announced to preach at A. B. Hinson's to-night. The report on finance read and adopted.

REPORT ON NOMINATIONS.

(Read by J. B. Williams.)

We, your committee on Nominations, beg to submit the following report:

Bro. Stephen Crocket to preach the introductory sermon, with Bro. R. Harris as alternate, and W. J. Daniel, E. N. Dekle, N. L. Cownell and J. D. Forrester are respectfully recommended as the Executive committee.

T. J. MOBLEY,  
T. L. DANIEL,  
D. PYBUS,  
J. B. WILLIAMS.

Report on Documents postponed until 9:30.

MORNING SESSION.

The Moderator being called away, Bro. Provence was Moderator *pro tem*.

MINISTERS' RELIEF ASSOCIATION.

This new order of business will doubtless meet with the approval of all of our ministers, and should meet with the heartiest co-operation on the part of the churches. For 50¢ a year our ministers become bene-



ficiaries and upon the death of a member, each one of the surviving members is assessed \$1.00, the funds to go to the family of the deceased.

Any member of a Baptist church may become an honorary member without expense. We recommend that especial attention be given this matter.

STEPHEN CROCKET,  
W. A. BRYAN,  
R. HARRIS.

The committee on Documents made the following report:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON DOCUMENTS.

We are glad to find most of the churches represented either by letter or by delegate.

We find a petitionary letter from Caryville church.

Two churches, Friendship and Chipley, write to meet with them in 1896.

The Wewahitchka sends the following query: Would it be better to employ evangelists instead of missionaries for the ensuing year?

E. Z. TAYLOR,  
J. M. STEVENS.

After the reading of the foregoing report, the query from Wewahitchka was considered. Three minute speeches were allowed, and after remarks by Brethren S. Provence, W. A. Bryan, J. D. Forrester, A. Bevis, R. Harris it was decided that the present system be continued.

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

Bro. Bryan read the following:

We, your committee, feel sure that every intelligent Baptist must realize that we are entering a crisis in the United States—one in which the education of the American youth is the issue. Whether that education be Christian or not, this is the question; and, like all other struggles for truth, there is no compromise. Roman Catholicism, backed by worldly indifference, forms a formidable foe against whose power our most untiring energies and earnest prayers are needed.

As Christians, we are committed to deal in our power for the advancement of all educational interests.

W. A. BRYAN,  
E. N. DEKLE,  
G. W. LEE.

After the reading, Brethren Chandoin and Farrior spoke in behalf of Stetson University, and Bro. S. Crocket in behalf of the Seminary at Louisville. Bro. S. M. Provence spoke on the report which was adopted.

REPORT ON MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

As Treasurer of the committee, I beg to submit the following:

Bro. M. J. Webb made application early in the fall for assistance to attend the Seminary and the committee decided to help him with the funds on hand. There were turned over to me at the last session the amount of \$119.33. Owing to press of business, I would ask that I be relieved of further business of the committee and some one else appointed to act in that capacity.

Respectfully submitted,

W. M. FARRIOR.

Bro Hughes read the following report:

REPORT ON DECEASED MINISTERS.

With grateful hearts the committee on Decease of Ministers report that within the past year no deaths have occurred among our ministers.

We are truly thankful, for the work is great and the laborers few, and may the Lord send more helpers, is our prayer.

R. HARRIS,  
G. B. HUGHES,  
R. C. CROFTON,  
T. J. PARKER.

After the reading a special prayer was offered.

REPORT ON PUBLICATIONS.

The report on Publications read at last session was adopted.

Your committee on Publication would submit the following:

Inasmuch as the religious status and spiritual fervor of our people is determined largely by the kind of reading matter furnished them, we would heartily recommend the judicious selection of that kind of literature that would secure the best ends. To inspire missionary zeal every Baptist family should subscribe for and read the *Foreign Mission Journal*. Of course our Sunday Schools ought to be provided with suitable helps, and these may be amply supplied by the Sunday School Board at Nashville, and also by the American Baptist Publication Society, Philadelphia.

In addition to these we would recommend with emphasis our State paper, the *Florida Baptist Witness*, and further insist that this Association adopt some plan, or inaugurate methods by which to increase its circulation.

J. P. SMITH.

MISSIONARY REPORT.

From January 1st, 1895.

Miles-traveled	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,066
Sermons preached	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	97
Prayers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	180
Prayers with families	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	40
Churches organized	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Prayer meetings	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Sabbath schools	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Sabbath school lectures delivered	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Received by baptist	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31
Received by letter	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	23
Received by restoration	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Now awaiting baptism	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2

Engaged in ordaining one preacher and two deacons. Served as pastor for three churches, with four other stations. Gave two weeks per months with a salary of \$7.50. Received in all for salary \$67.50

Testaments given away	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
Bibles sold	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Bibles given away	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
Families without Bibles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Sold <i>Home-field</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Sold <i>Foreign Journal</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3

S. W. LOCK.

MISSIONARY REPORT.

Since December of 1894 I have accomplished the following:

Miles traveled	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1535
Sermons preached	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	119
Prayers offered	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	245
Baptised	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	23
Received by letter	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11
Sabbath schools organized	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Woman's Missionary Societies organized	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Subscriptions to the <i>Witness</i> received	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Pages of tracts distributed	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	850
Churches finished	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Churches begun	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Ordinations assisted at	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2

For which work I received

From the Executive Board	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$67.50
From the field	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	26.10
In all	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	93.60

R. HARRIS.

Upon motion the general meetings were left to the churches.

Upon motion it was decided that the next session be held with Friendship church. The following resolution was then adopted:

RESOLVED, That the Association return their sincere and heartfelt thanks to the good people of Campbellton and vicinity, for their kindness and hospitality to us during the session of our body among them.

Upon motion the Clerk was instructed to have 800 copies of the Minutes printed and be paid \$20 for his services. Adjourned for preaching.

Bro. Provence preached at the school house. At the church Dr. Chandoin preached from the text: "And I Will Give thee Rest." After the singing a collection of \$7.83 was taken for indigent ministers.

After services the parting hand was given, and having had a pleasant session, the body adjourned to meet next year with Friendship.



## ARTICLES OF FAITH.

1. We believe in one true and living God, and that there is a Trinity of persons in the Godhead— the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit; and yet there are not three Gods; but one God.—Mark xii, 23; Mat. xvi, 17; xviii, 16; 1 Tim., i, 2, 5; Exod., xx, 1, 3; John i, 1, 4; v. 23; x, 30.
2. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the word of God, and that they are the only rules of faith and practice.—2 Tim., iii, 16, 17; 2 Pet., i, 21; 2 Sam., xxiii, 2; Rev. xxii, 18, 19.
3. We believe in the fall of Adam, the imputation of his sin to his posterity; in the corruption of human nature, and the impotency of man to recover himself by his own free will and ability.—Isa. i, 5, 6; Psa. xiv, 1, 3; Rom. v, 12; John vi. 44; 1 Cor. xv, 20; 1 Job, xiv, 57; Eph. ii, 8, 10.
4. We believe in the everlasting love of God to his people, and the eternal election of a definite number of the human race to grace and glory, and that there was a covenant of grace of redemption made between the Father and the Son before the world begun, in which their salvation is secure, and they in particular are redeemed.—xxi, 3; John xv, 16, 17; Isa. xi, 8, 9; Eph. i, 4, 11; Acts. xiii, 48, 2; Thess. ii, 13, Pet. i, 2; Rom. viii, 29, 30; Rom. ix, 11, 13, 23; xi, 4, 7; 2 Tim. ii, 9.
5. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God only by the righteousness of Christ imputed to them.—Rom. iii, 21, 5, 59; Psa. xiv; John x, 9, 15; Rom. v, 1, 10; Cor. i, 30.
6. We believe that all those who are 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—not one of them be finally lost.—John x, 30, vi. 27; 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; Epl. ii, 45; Rom. viii, 28, 31.
7. We believe that good works are the fruits of faith—that they follow after justification, and they only justify us to the sight of men, and are only evidences of our Christianity.—Eph. ii, 10; James ii, 13; iii, 13; 1 Pet. 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; Mat. xxv, 46; John v. 20, 29; Thess. i, 7, 10,

9. We believe that the Church of Christ is a visible congregation of baptised 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.

12. We believe that none but those regularly baptized, and who are in fellowship with the Church, have a right to commune at the Lord's table.

## DECORUM.

ARTICLE I. Those members who are regularly chosen by the churches, ministers and pastors in our union, shall comprise this Association.

ART. 2. The members so chosen shall produce letters from their respective churches, certifying their appointment, together with their number in fellowship, those baptised, received by letter, restored, dismissed, ex-communicated and dead, since the last Association: also a statement of the amount of funds sent up by the delegates, and for what purpose, and any other contributions made during the year.

ART. 3. The members thus chosen and convened shall be denominated the WEST FLORIDA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

ART. 4. The Association shall have a Moderator and Clerk, who shall be chosen by the members present.

ART. 5. This Association shall have no power to lord it over God's heritage, nor by which she can infringe upon any of the internal rights of the churches.

ART. 6. If newly constituted churches, or others, desire to be admitted into this union, they shall petition by letter and delegates; and if found upon examination to be orthodox and orderly, shall be received by the Association, and such reception shall be manifested by the Moderator giving to the delegates the right hand of fellowship.

ART. 7. Each church in this Association shall be entitled to two delegates, and when her number of members shall reach twenty-five, she shall be entitled to three, and for every additional increase of twenty-five members, she shall be entitled to an additional delegate.

ART. 8. Every query sent to the Association by any of the churches in this union shall be read and put to a vote by the Moderator whether it shall be discussed, and if there is a majority for discussion, it shall be taken up and considered, if not it shall be withdrawn, provided, always, those be considered that effect the union of the church.

ART. 9. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the observation of the Association, except it be withdrawn by the member who made it. The last motion shall be first in order.

ART. 10. Every person who speaks in debate shall rise from his seat and address the Moderator, and shall not be interrupted while speaking, except he depart from the subject.

ART. 11. No person shall speak more than three times on the same subject without permission of the Association.

ART. 12. There shall be no talking or whispering in time of public speech, nor shall any reflection be cast upon the speaker.

ART. 12. No member shall absent himself from the Association without first obtaining permission from the body, or Moderator, and the Moderator shall only have power to act while the body is not in session. The Association is not considered closed until after the farewell sermon is preached.

ART. 14. If any member shall break the rules of this Constitution he shall be immediately reprovved by the Moderator.

ART. 15. It is the business of the Association, first, to provide for the general union of the churches; second, to keep up a correspondence with Association of the same faith and order—that the chain of communion may be preserved among the churches; third, to give churches the best advice in matters of difficulty, and if the communion between any of the sister churches be broken, to inquire into the case of the breach and use the best means to remove the difficulty; but if the breach cannot be made up, to withdraw from any church whom they look upon as unsound in principle or disorderly in practice, until she be reclaimed; fourth, to admit any of the brethren in the ministry as assistants, if they deem it to be necessary; fifth, to appoint a Clerk to keep the record of every meeting of the Association; sixth, to have the minutes read and corrected, if need be, before the Association rises, and have them printed if they think proper; seventh, to amend this plan of government at any time when the majority of the Association may deem it necessary; eighth, to adjourn to any time or place considered most proper.





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