

# MINUTES

— OF THE —

Fiftieth Annual Session

— OF THE —

West Florida Baptist Association,

— HELD WITH THE —

Friendship Baptist Church, Jackson County, Florida,

October 16, 17 and 18, A. D. 1896.

## OFFICERS.

W. A. BRYAN ..... Moderator.  
JOHN M. STEVENS ..... Clerk.  
W. J. DANIEL ..... Treasurer.

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

W. J. Daniel. E. N. Dekle.  
J. H. Stephens. N. L. Connell.  
J. D. Forrester.

Next session meets with the Chipley Baptist Church,  
Washington county, Florida, on Friday before  
the Third Sunday in October, 1897.

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OCALA, FLA.  
WITNESS BOOK AND JOB PRINT.  
1896.

## 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' Insurance Association.
  5. Arrange for meeting and adjourning.
  6. Appoint Correspondents.
  7. Elect Executive Committee and Treasurer.
  8. Elect Delegates to State Convention.
  9. Call for reports of standing committees:
    - I. Executive Committee.
    - II. Missions.
    - III. Finance.
    - IV. Temperance.
    - V. Sabbath Schools.
    - VI. Education.
10. Call for Report of Missionaries.
11. Call for Report of Treasurer.
12. Call for Report on Documents.
13. Call for Report on Publications.
14. Call for Report on Deceased Ministers.
15. Call for Report on Nominations.
16. Ministers' Insurance Association.
17. Appoint General Meetings.
18. Appoint time and place for next meeting.
19. Read and adopt Minutes.
20. Adjournment.

## ORDAINED MINISTERS.

J. P. Smith	.....	Chipley
W. P. Richardson	.....	Chipley
E. D. Nelson	.....	Orange Hill
J. F. D. Richter	.....	Chipley
William Sapp	.....	Campbellton
J. E. Nixon	.....	Nixon
Robert Harris	.....	Vernon
J. F. Richardson	.....	Econfina
T. N. Knowls	.....	St. Andrews
D. F. Cox	.....	Cottondale
W. E. Zediker	.....	Sneads
J. D. Courtney	.....	Graceville
J. W. Johnson	.....	Graceville
R. C. B. Lawrence	.....	Dellwood
W. A. Bryan	.....	Wewahitchka
John Long	.....	Campbellton
George Crofton	.....	Caryville
A. T. Posey	.....	Alpine
T. S. Scott	.....	Bonifay
S. W. Lock	.....	Cottondale
L. T. Knizley	.....	Chipley
William J. Ward	.....	Freeport
M. J. Webb	.....	St. Andrews
G. B. Hughs	.....	Campbellton
W. H. McIntosh	.....	Graceville

## LICENSED MINISTERS.

J. H. Crutchfield	.....	Graceville
R. E. Bonifay	.....	Bonifay
J. E. W. Taylor	.....	Cottondale
Eli English	.....	Graceville
Z. W. Petis	.....	Clarkson
S. Williford	.....	Chipley

## MINUTES.

FRIDAY, October 16, 1896.

The West Florida Baptist Association met this day in Friendship Church at 11 a. m.

Rev. S Crockett not being present, Rev. R. Harris preached the Introductory Sermon from 1 Cor. xv. 57: "But thanks be unto God, which giveth us the victory."

After services the Moderator requested the delegates to meet in one and a half hours for organization. Dinner was then announced on the grounds for all.

### AFTERNOON SESSION.

After partaking of refreshments, the messengers assembled in the house, and after singing "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name," Rev. W. E. Zediker read the seventeenth chapter of John, and Brother R. C. B. Lawrence led in prayer.

The former Moderator, J. P. Smith, requested B. A. Hinson and J. M. Stevens to collect the letters, and W. J. Daniel, J. D. Forrester and J. L. Massey to read them.

The following letters were handed in and read and the following delegates enrolled:

APALACHICOLA—Not represented.

BETHLEHEM—Henry Womble, A. Sizemore, W. W. McNeal.

COTTONDALE—A. F. Thomas, J. L. Massey.

CAMPBELLTON—D. E. Pybus, J. W. Carter, Robert Jones, B. A. Hinson.

CHIPLEY—J. D. Forrester, V. E. Coleman, A. M. Mathews, W. M. Farrior.

CROMATON—E. P. Kinney.

DAMASCUS—J. D. Courtney, J. H. Crutchfield, A. J. Crutchfield, A. L. White

EPHESUS—Judge Christmas.

EBENEZER—By letter

ECONFINA—By letter.

FRIENDSHIP—John M. Stevens, N. L. Hart, William Standland, J. B. Williams, P. H. Culpepper.

GREENWOOD—Harris Anderson, J. W. Godwin, J. D. Watts.

GRASSY POINT—By letter.

GREEN HEAD—Not represented.

HICKORY LEVEL—J. H. Porter, W. T. Pumphrey, T. S. Pumphrey

MARIANNA—M. L. Dekle, W. J. Daniel, R. J. Boone.

MOUNT OLIVE—G. T. Boswell, J. A. Strickland.

MOUNT IDA—G. W. Rodgers, A. Posey.

MOUNT WAYFAIR—T. Peacock.

ORANGE HILL—S. L. Daniel, W. B. Daniel.

OAKY RIDGE—James Stuart, Perry Yawn, W. T. Brock.

PINEY GROVE—C. S. Lock, S. W. Lock.

PT. WASHINGTON—Not represented.

PLEASANT HILL—J. E. Nixon.

PLEASANT RIDGE—By letter.

UNITY—By letter.

WEWAHITCHKA—W. A. Bryan, N. L. Connell, H. A. Rish, Mrs. N. L. Connell.

WHITE POND—S. W. Swails, Lija Kent, J. F. Swails.

VERNON—W. C. Lockey, W. P. Roche.

PILGRIM'S REST—J. B. Tool.

ST. ANDREWS—M. J. Webb.

NEW SALEM—D. E. McQuagge, John Coley.

Upon motion the officers were elected by ballot and as follows: W. A. Bryan, Moderator; John M. Stevens, Clerk.

Petitionary letters were called for. The following were handed in and read by the Clerk:

SNEADS—W. E. Zediker, W. B. Bryan.

WEST BAY—W. C. Rodgers.

GRACEVILLE—J. W. Johnson, Noah Barefoot, W. H. McIntosh, G. B. Yawn.

On motion all were received and the right hand of fellowship extended to the delegates by the Moderator.

The Moderator appointed W. B. Bryan, H. A. Rish and the delegates of Friendship church as a Committee on Divine Services.

The committee appointed Bro. J. P. Smith to preach to-night at Friendship, and Brother S M Provence to preach at Greenwood

On motion the body adjourned to meet at 9 o'clock tomorrow morning

#### NIGHT SERVICES.

After singing "The Morning Light Is Breaking," and prayer by Brother J. E. Nixon, Brother J. P. Smith preached from Eccles. ix. 3: "Yea, also the heart of the sons of men is full of evil, and madness is in their heart while they live"

The Moderator then appointed the following committees:

ON NOMINATIONS—J. W. Carter, A. Posey, A. B. Hinson, C. E. Scott, J. D. Courtney.

ON PUBLICATIONS—J. P. Smith, A. M. Mathews, A. J. Crutchfield, J. F. Swails, W. T. Pumphrey.

ON DECEASED MINISTERS—S. W. Lock, T. S. Pumphrey, J. H. Porter, J. A. Strickland, J. D. Watts.

ON SABBATH SCHOOLS—J. D. Forrester, J. L. Massey, R. E. McQuagge, M. W. C. Rodgers

ON EDUCATION—W. C. Lockey, G. T. Boswell, N. L. Hart, E. H. Anderson, C. R. Jones, M. L. Dekle.

ON MINISTERS' INSURANCE ASSOCIATION—M. J. Webb, J. H. Crutchfield, W. P. Roche, Lija Kent, J. D. Rawles, William Brock.

ON MISSIONS—W. M. Farrisior, J. E. Nixon, J. W. Rawles, Robert Harris, P. H. Culpepper, James Stuart.

ON DOCUMENTS—J. W. Godwin, V. E. Coleman, Mrs. N. L. Connell, A. F. Thomas, John Coley, D. E. Pybus.

ON TEMPERANCE—William Sapp, J. W. Johnson, J. B. Tool, W. B. Daniel, W. E. Zediker, T. Peacock

ON FINANCE—W. J. Daniel, N. L. Connell, J. P. Yawn, H. A. Rish, J. B. Williams, R. J. Boone.

ON NOMINATIONS—J. W. Carter, A. Posey, B. A. Hinson, C. E. Scott, A. Cooper.

#### SATURDAY, 9 A. M.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment.

Song—"Work, for the Night Is Coming."

The Moderator read the twelfth chapter of Romans.

Brother M. J. Webb led in prayer.

Called for visiting brethren and correspondents.

Received from

THE FLORIDA—Rev. S. M. Provence.

THE JUDSON—Rev. A. Daughety.

THE ROCKY CREEK—Z. Johnson, H. Green.

THE INDIAN RIVER—Rev. B. A. Geiger.

THE COLUMBIA—Rev. J. J. White, L. D. Coonrod, F. A. Grimsley, W. P. Jourdan.

On motion the body agreed to meet at 9 a. m., adjourn at 11 a. m. for preaching, meet at 1:30 p. m., and adjourn at 4 p. m.

Appointed correspondents to the

FLORIDA ASSOCIATION—W. M. Farrisior, W. A. Bryan, W. P. Burk.

GRAVES ASSOCIATION—R. Harris, J. W. Johnson, J. E. Nixon, C. S. Lock.

COLUMBIA ASSOCIATION—S. W. Lock, J. W. Godwin, D. E. Pybus, J. D. Courtney, J. W. Johnson, P. H. Culpepper, E. McDaniel.

JUDSON ASSOCIATION—J. M. Stevens, J. P. Smith.

ROCKY CREEK ASSOCIATION—M. J. Webb, J. W. Johnson, W. J. Burk, J. W. Rawls, J. H. Coley, W. A. Bryan, H. A. Rish, J. E. Nixon, W. E. Zediker, J. P. Smith, W. B. Bryan.

The order of business was suspended and the report on nominations was read and adopted.

The same Executive Committee was elected.

The body then went into the election of delegates to the State Convention, which resulted in the choice of Robert Harris, A. J. Sizemore, J. D. Rawles, J. P. Smith, W. M. Farrior, J. D. Forrester, W. A. Bryan, J. H. Stephens, W. C. Lockey, R. J. Foxworth.

On motion it was agreed that, should any of the delegates be absent and any other members of this Association present, they should fill the places of the absent.

Adjourned for preaching at the stand by Brother S. M. Provence from Matt. xiii. 31-33: "The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a grain of mustard seed," etc. After preaching a collection was taken for missions, amounting to \$9.82. Dinner was then announced on the grounds for all.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

At 1:30 p. m. the body was called to order by singing "I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord," and was led in prayer by Brother A. M. Mathews.

The report of the Executive Committee was read and adopted.

The Treasurer read his report, which was adopted.

A collection was then taken to finish settlement with the missionaries, amounting to \$2.

The report of the missionaries was called for.

Brother Harris read his report and spoke to the report in a feeling and touching manner.

Brother Lock read his report and spoke to the same. The reports, the field, its needs, plans of work, etc., were ably discussed by Brethren Godwin, Mathews, Bryan, Daniels and Provence. The reports were received.

Pledges were then taken for the support of the mission-

aries, Harris and Lock, during the present year, as follows:

J. W. Rawles .....	\$ 5 00
J. D. Rawles .....	2 00
W. T. Pumphrey .....	2 00
W. B. Lockey .....	5 00
Mrs. M. F. Boone .....	1 00
Walter McIntosh .....	1 00
Campbellton Church .....	10 00
Cromaton " .....	2 00
Ebenezer " .....	5 00
New Salem " .....	2 00
Wewahitchka " .....	5 00
M. L. Dekle .....	10 00
W. J. Daniel .....	10 00
Perry Yawn .....	1 50
William Sapp .....	2 00
Mrs. J. H. Stephens .....	1 00
Cottondale Church .....	2 00
Bethel " .....	5 00
Damascus " .....	3 00
Friendship " .....	5 00
St. Andrews " .....	2 00
Sneads " .....	3 00
West Bay " .....	5 00
Marianna Sunday School .....	10 00
Chipley " " .....	10 00
Pleasant Hill " " .....	2 50

• Above pledges to be paid in to W. J. Daniel, Treasurer, in part, if not all, by the 1st of January, 1897. If all is not paid by that time, pay in as soon as you can, take his receipt for the amount paid, and have your account credited with the same.

On motion of W. J. Daniel, a collection was taken for Brethren Lawrence and Osborne, amounting to \$16.70.

Brother B. A. Geiger spoke of foreign missions and recommended the subscribing for and reading the Foreign Mission Journal. Also Brother W. H. McIntosh recom-

112.00

mended the reading of the Mission Journal, and suggested that a fund be raised to send it to ministers who are not able to subscribe for it. The Moderator appointed a committee to solicit contributions for that purpose.

On motion it was ordered that the report of missionaries be included in the regular order of business.

The report of the Finance Committee was read and adopted.

The report on Sunday Schools was made the special order for 10 o'clock tomorrow morning.

The report on Missions was made the special order for 9 o'clock tomorrow morning.

The report on Temperance was read, and pending its adoption Brethren Zediker, Geiger, Urton, Smith, Sapp and Forrester spoke to the report with appropriate and stirring remarks; after which the report was adopted.

The report on Publications was read, and pending the adoption, Brother J. C. Porter took the floor in the interest of the Florida Baptist Witness. The report was adopted.

The Committee on Divine Services announced that Rev. W. E. Zediker will preach in this house at half past seven tonight.

Adjourned to meet tomorrow at 9 a. m.

#### NIGHT SERVICES.

Song; prayer by Brother A. Daughety; song; prayer by Brother J. P. Smith.

Brother W. E. Zediker, after reading a part of the fifteenth chapter of John and leading in prayer, preached from the text, "I am crucified with Christ," etc. Gal. ii. 20.

#### SUNDAY MORNING, 9 o'clock.

After singing, the Moderator called the Association to order and read I Cor. xiii. 1-13, and Brother B. A. Geiger led in prayer.

A motion to take up the Sunday School and Mission reports together was lost.

The report on Documents was read and received.

A vote was taken on the place of holding the next session of the Association, which resulted that the next session will be held at Chipley, commencing on Friday before the third Sunday in October, 1897.

The report on Baptist Ministers' Insurance Association was read and the objects and purposes of the organization explained by Brother B. A. Geiger, and an urgent appeal made by the Moderator for members. The report was adopted.

The report on Deceased Ministers was read and spoken to by Brother S. W. Lock. Brother J. D. Forrester moved to amend the report by making special mention of Brother A. Bevis. Brother W. A. Bryan spoke in a touching manner of those brethren, and Brother B. Urton led in a special prayer for their families. A collection amounting to \$6.68 was taken for placing a tomb to the memory of Brother Deal. The report was then adopted.

#### RESOLUTION OF THANKS.

Resolved, That this body return hearty thanks to the good people of Friendship and vicinity for their kind hospitality to us during our stay with them.

The report on Education was read by W. C. Lockey, spoken to by Brother J. P. Smith, and amended to include mention of the Stetson University and Louisville Theological Seminary. The report was spoken to by Brethren Zediker and Geiger, after which it was adopted.

The report on Missions was read and the adoption suspended until after divine services.

The report on Sunday Schools was read and spoken to by J. D. Forrester and also discussed by B. Urton and W. E. Zediker. The report was adopted.

On motion of W. M. Farrior it was ordered that eight hundred copies of the minutes be printed, and the Clerk be paid twenty dollars for his services.

On motion it was ordered that the printing of the minutes be given to the Witness Job Office.

Brother W. E. Zediker was elected as a delegate to the Southern Baptist Convention. Brother W. M. Farrior was appointed to solicit funds to defray his expenses.

The reading of the minutes was omitted, trusting the correction to the Clerk.

The body then repaired to the stand for divine services. After singing a hymn, Brother J. C. Porter repeated the one hundred and third Psalm, and Brother E. A. Geiger led in prayer. After singing "Nearer, My God, to Thee," Brother Porter preached from the text, "Hear ye therefore the parable of the sower." Matt. xiii, 18.

After the sermon the report on Missions was taken up and adopted. While singing "Stand Up for Jesus," a collection was taken for missions, amounting to \$15.50.

After taking the parting hand, Brother R. C. B. Lawrence led the closing prayer.

The Association then, after a pleasant and profitable session, adjourned to meet with the Chipley Baptist Church, on Friday before the third Sunday in October, A. D. 1897.

W. A. BRYAN, Moderator.

JOHN M. STEVENS, Clerk.

## REPORTS.

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Your committee had with which to operate within your bounds, during the Associational year just closing, the sum of one hundred and twenty-five dollars. They made a proposition to Brethren Lock and Harris to divide this sum between them equally for them to continue the work they had begun, as long during the present year as they could or were willing to, for this sum. They have kept up the work until the present meeting of the Association. They have been paid therefor as follows: Brother Lock, sixty-five dollars; Brother Harris, fifty dollars. There is still due Brother Harris fifteen dollars. The committee have on hand now to pay Brother Harris only ten dollars, leaving the Association due Brother Harris five dollars. This, if the Association will pay, fulfills our obligations as committeemen. Whether they have been paid anything or not by the State Board we are not aware; more than we have instructions from Brother Chaudoin to turn over to these brethren whatever amount is sent up by the churches at this meeting of the Association for State missions, and report the same to him. Respectfully,

W. J. DANIEL, Chairman.

### ON MISSIONS.

The work of Missions takes in the entire world, Foreign and Home Missions. They are one, and must be so considered by the followers of Christ. The servants of the Savior must never forget that the Master himself set the example, when he came into the world and gave his life to redeem the souls of men.

We, your committee, therefore heartily approve of the renewal of the old practice, to raise funds by the pledge system.

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The world is the field. "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel." Brother, can you realize the extent, the importance and the responsibility of the divine injunction?

We again would earnestly suggest to our executive committee, if possible, to secure the services of the best qualified man to evangelize our fields. Hear you not Christ saying, "Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh the harvest? Behold, I say unto you, lift up your eyes and look on the fields; for they are white already to the harvest."

My brethren, we should take courage, as we take a retrospective view, even over the last fifteen or twenty years, of the results of our small gifts and efforts to advance the cause of our Lord—yes, we are becoming the recipients every day of the good results of having the seed sown. Great results are being accomplished. The good news comes to our knowledge and the good Lord is even permitting His people to see with their own eyes and feel in their own poor hearts some of the rewards of their toiling in His vineyard.

Respectfully,

W. M. FARRIOR, Chairman.

R. HARRIS.

P. H. CULPEPPER.

J. E. NIXON.

J. W. RAWLES.

JAMES STUART.

### ON TEMPERANCE.

The millennium is not yet come. The devil is still loose. And his favorite method of work is still through the appetites of men.

Now, brethren, your Committee on Temperance find that during the Associational year there has been no marked improvement in the temperance work. We find that the disposition of men, and of professing Christian men too, is to come to church and association, heroically resolve to do great things for the Lord, and go away satisfied that this

fills the measure of duty. We must as Christian men denounce such action.

While it is a fact that a part of the churches in our bounds are advancing, others are still lukewarm on the question of temperance. Brethren, this is not Baptist. Progression and Baptist doctrine are synonymous. We cannot countenance this crime against God and man in our midst and among our brethren, and still hope to lead the Christian world in its spiritual advancement.

We therefore recommend that this matter be handled without gloves; that it be called what God designates it—a crime that damns a man's soul—for "no drunkard shall inherit eternal life;" that intemperance be regarded, furthermore, as a practice which unfits us for companions either of man or beasts; for it fills our poor houses; it peoples our penitentiaries with all manner of criminals; and it gives shrieking, maddened and demented occupants to every insane asylum in the land.

We further recommend that every spiritual minded Baptist in our churches use every means in his power as an American citizen and as a Christian, to blot out this crime from our midst; that they not only practise temperance in person, but that they teach it to their children, and demand that it be preached by their pastors from the pulpit.

Respectfully,

WILLIAM SAPP, Chairman.

J. W. JOHNSON.

J. B. TOOL.

W. B. DANIEL.

W. E. ZEDIKER.

T. PEACOCK.

### ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

We, your Committee on Sunday Schools, find seventeen churches reporting Sunday schools, and two stations. They report sixty-eight officers and teachers, six hundred and ten scholars. We are glad of this, but we feel sad to see so many of our churches that report no Sunday school.

The Sunday school is essential to the prosperity of the church. The starting and training of our children, and bringing them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, should engage our deepest thoughts.

Brethren, you who have no Sunday school surely are not aware of the great blessing you are missing. Let us beg of you, don't neglect it any longer, but organize one in each church before the year is out.

We recommend the literature published by the American Baptist Publication Society; also that published by our Southern Board at Nashville.

We would further recommend that not only the children attend the Sunday school, but that parents and guardians go with them and see that they are earnestly taught the truth of God's word. Respectfully,

J. D. FORRESTER, Chairman.

J. L. MASSEY.

D. E. McQUAGGE.

M. W. C. RODGERS.

### ON EDUCATION.

We, your committee, appreciating the fact that much progress has been made along an educational line, and that almost every community is supplied with at least four months of free public schools provided by the generosity of our State government, earnestly urge that every thinking man and woman bestir themselves to remove at least some of the remaining evils which very greatly retard the educational development of the youth of our land, namely: extreme carelessness on the part of many parents, indolence and unfitness in local school officers, illiteracy and immorality allowed to dominate many school rooms by so-called teachers, and regardlessness of all law, even by professors of religion.

The time is right now on us when we can no longer grapple with the stern realities of life without minds enriched and expanded by culture and instruction. And we believe this state of affairs to exist more forcibly with

the rising generation than with the present one, if we do not continue to advance. We therefore implore every Baptist to foster the cause of true education in the hearts and minds of all the people and their children, everywhere with untiring zeal, and uncompromising adherence to all truth.

We would call the attention of our Baptist brethren who are seeking a higher education for their children, and earnestly recommend to them the Stetson University at DeLand, Fla.; and to young men preparing for the ministry the Louisville Theological Seminary at Louisville, Kentucky. Respectfully,

W. C. LOCKEY, Chairman.

G. T. BOSWELL.

N. L. HART.

E. H. ANDERSON.

C. R. JONES.

M. L. DEKLE.

### REPORT OF MISSIONARY.

I contracted with the Executive Committee January 7, 1896, for the sum of \$10 per month. Since that time I have traveled 1420 miles, preached 64 sermons, prayers 135, baptized 30, received by letter 17, organized one church, organized 3 Sunday schools. I have received of the Executive Committee \$50; collected on the field for missions, \$13 30. Respectfully,

ROBERT HARRIS.

Miles traveled, 1500; sermons preached, 160; prayers offered, 254; baptized, 15; received by letter, 12; awaiting baptism, 5; Sunday schools organized, 3; Bibles sold, 4; Bibles and Testaments given away, 8; assisted in ordaining preachers, 1; sold "What Baptists Believe," 52; meeting

house built, 1; churches organized, 1. I have received from the Executive Committee for services \$65.

Respectfully,

S. W. LOCK.

### ON DOCUMENTS.

We are glad to find most of the churches represented either by delegates or by letter. We find three petitionary letters—Graceville, Sneads and West Bay—asking membership in your body. Also we find that Chipley, Wewahitchka and Bethel ask for the next session of this body to meet with them.

Respectfully,

J. W. GODWIN, Chairman.

V. E. COLEMAN.

D. E. PYBUS.

MRS. N. L. CONNELL.

A. F. THOMAS.

J. COLEY.

### ON PUBLICATIONS.

We live in an age of restlessness and literary progress. The excessive haste generated by the spirit of the times gives birth to many and extravagant indiscretions, and this is manifest in the indiscriminate selection of reading matter for the youth of our homes.

The indulgent but unwise father or mother does not, it appears, appreciate the responsibility nor rightly weigh the advantage to be gained by a judicious oversight of all that shall make for the literary training and moral culture of their children.

Fathers and mothers in Israel, your children will be likely to read something that will awaken generous, moral and spiritual influences, or else engender depraved, sensual and fiendish motives.

As Baptists let us not ignore the great opportunity that opens up before us in this department of Christian duty and obligation. No one who thinks as he ought would deny

that every Baptist home should have and read its State denominational paper. The Baptist Witness is ours and we should subscribe for it, pay for it, and read it. Our children should be taught the Scriptures, and for that end Sunday schools exist. There is a publishing interest at Nashville, Tenn., under the supervision of a Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention; also the American Baptist Publication Society at Philadelphia, Pa. From either we may obtain all the Sunday school supplies needed. All should take the Foreign Mission Journal to become better informed about the condition of the heathen, and the great importance of supplying them the gospel.

Respectfully,

J. P. SMITH, Chairman.

A. M. MATHEWS.

J. F. SWAILS.

W. T. PUMPHREY.

A. J. CRUTCHFIELD.

### ON DECEASED MINISTERS.

DEAR BRETHREN: Since our last meeting the Lord has seen proper to take from our midst one of our faithful ministers, Brother Jonathan Deal. He was an ever ready defender of our Master's cause, zealous in all good works, making plain the way of salvation. We feel assured that he has gone to that celestial shore where all is peace and love. He has left a good Christian wife and a family of eleven children.

Brother Deal was born in Dale county, Alabama.

He has been an ordained minister eight years.

His labors have been in the bounds of the Columbia Association, except the two last years, which have been in the West Florida. Brethren, pray for his family.

We would also call attention to the death of Brother Alfred Bevis, a deacon of the Greenwood Baptist church, whom we all know to have been a most earnest and zealous worker in the Master's cause. Oh, how we miss him in the

Association! His long filled seat in this body is vacant. His voice as chorister of this Association is heard no more. He is gone to his reward. May God bless and console his widow in her declining years. Respectfully,

S. W. LOCK, Chairman.  
T. S. PUMPHREY.  
J. A. STRICKLAND.  
J. H. PORTER.  
J. D. WATTS.

### ON NOMINATIONS.

We, your committee, nominate Rev. R. V. Urton to preach the Introductory Sermon at next Association and Rev. S. W. Lock as alternate.

We also nominate W. J. Daniel, J. H. Stephens, N. L. Connell, M. L. Dekie and J. D. Forrester as Executive Committee. Respectfully,

J. W. CARTER, Chairman  
J. D. COURTNEY.  
C. E. SCOTT.  
A. B. HINSON.  
A. POSEY.  
A. COOPER.

### ON BAPTIST MINISTERS' INSURANCE ASSOCIATION.

This is an organization for the relief of the families of deceased Baptist ministers. Any minister of our faith may become a member and beneficiary by paying fifty cents and the assessments; anybody not a minister may become an honorary member by simple agreement to pay the assessments of one dollar upon the death of any beneficiary. In view of the sacrifices which ministers are often called upon to make in their appointed work, this assistance to their families is a charity well directed.

We recommend it to favorable consideration.

Any one interested in the matter should address Rev. L. D. Geiger, Apopka, Fla. Respectfully,

M. J. WEBB, Chairman.  
J. H. CRUTCHFIELD.  
J. D. RAWLES.  
W. P. ROCHE.  
WILLIAM BROCK

LIJA KENT.

### TREASURER'S REPORT.

		DR.	CR.
1895.			
Oct. 17	Balance on hand .....		\$ 20 10
" 21	Received at Association .....		303 60
" 21	Paid W. N. Chaudoin .....	\$ 40 52	
" 21	Paid W. N. Chaudoin .....	17 90	
" 21	Paid W. N. Chaudoin, by Woman's Missionary Society .....	1 90	
" 21	Paid W. N. Chaudoin, by Bible Work .....	10	
" 21	Paid W. N. Chaudoin, disabled ministers .....	25 99	
" 21	Paid W. M. Farrior .....	25 00	
" 30	Paid S. W. Lock, missionary .....	15 00	
" 30	Paid R. Harris, missionary .....	20 00	
Nov. 4	Received of W. N. Chaudoin .....		10 00
Dec. 20	Paid Stores for minutes .....	24 20	
" 27	Paid R. Harris, missionary .....	7 50	
1896.			
Jan. 2	Paid S. W. Lock, missionary .....	7 50	
" 10	Paid M. Osborn, disabled minister .....	10 00	
" 28	Paid R. C. B. Lawrence, disabled minister .....	10 00	
" 29	Paid S. W. Lock, missionary .....	10 00	
Mar. 24	Paid S. W. Lock, missionary .....	10 00	
" 27	Paid R. Harris, missionary .....	20 00	
May 2	Paid S. W. Lock, missionary .....	10 00	
June 1	Paid S. W. Lock, missionary .....	10 00	
July 7	Paid R. Harris, missionary .....	30 00	
" 23	Paid S. W. Lock, missionary .....	10 00	
Aug. 10	Paid S. W. Lock, missionary .....	15 00	
" 28	Received of W. N. Chaudoin .....		10 00
Oct 15	Balance on hand .....	23 09	

\$343 70 \$343 70

W. J. DANIEL, Treasurer.

# ON FINANCE.

CHURCHES.	Foreign Missions..	Home Missions...	State Missions...	Minutes .....	Association Purposes	Woman's Missionary Society	Ministerial Education	Aged Ministers...	Total Amount from Each Church
Apalachicola									
Bethlehem	\$ 4 78			\$ 50					5 28
Bethel				1 00	\$ 6 00				7 00
Caryville	5 00			50					5 50
Cottondale									
Cromaton				50	4 77				5 27
Campbellton				25					25
Chipley	\$ 3 35	3 50		1 00					7 85
Damascus	5 00	7 50		1 00	4 00				17 50
Econfina	1 00	2 46		1 00	1 00				5 46
Ephesus				25	1 25				1 50
Ebenezer				50	1 00				1 50
Friendship	50	4 05		50	50				1 50
Graceville	1 10		\$ 5 68	1 00	1 00				5 55
Greenwood	1 00	2 50		50	1 00				5 08
Grassy Point	14 50		5 00	2 00	2 00				7 00
Hickory Level				30	3 25				23 50
Marianna		1 70		20	1 00				3 55
Mount Olive	10 00	9 25		1 50	1 50		\$ 2 00		2 90
Mount Ida	80	1 50		50	50		1 00		24 25
New Salem		50		35	80				3 80
Orange Hill		15		1 00	50				1 65
Oaky Ridge	1 00	1 50		20					1 65
Pleasant Ridge				75	2 15				2 70
Pleasant Hill				50	4 25				2 90
Pilgrim's Rest	75	1 25		50	50				4 75
Piney Grove				75			1 50		3 00
St. Andrews				75	2 70				2 25
Sneads				1 00					3 45
Unity				50					1 00
West Bay		75		50					50
White Pond		5 00		50					1 25
Vernon				50	2 15				6 00
Wewahitchka	50			50	7 75				2 65
Wewahitchka	6 45			50					8 75
Total	\$45 95	\$46 61	\$10 68	\$21 30	\$50 07		\$ 5 50	\$ 185 30	19
Amount over in count									
Total amount sent up by the churches									\$ 185 58
Collected at the Association for Missionaries									2 00
for Missions									9 82
for Sister Deal									15 50
for Disabled Ministers									6 68
Grand Total of Finance									\$ 236 28

Respectfully,

W. J. DANIEL, Chairman.  
 N. L. CONNEL.  
 J. P. YAWN  
 H. A. RISH.  
 J. B. WILLIAMS.  
 R. J. BOONE.

# STATISTICS.

S	Year.	Moderators.	Clerks.	Churches.	No.	Missions.
1	1849	D. P. Everett	E. Minching	Union Academy	464	\$ 134 93
4	1850	J. Mercer	"	Bethlehem	460	119 15
5	1851	"	"	"	"	"
6	1852	J. Mercer	J. H. Wombwell	Sardis	467	147 30
7	1853	"	W. D. Horne	Bethlehem	568	84 50
8	1854	"	J. Drummond	Union Academy	193	104 40
9	1855	"	Stephen Rowe	Orange Hill	597	72 40
10	1856	"	"	Sardis	600	143 40
11	1857	"	"	Bethlehem	423	158 00
12	1858	"	"	Greenwood	545	176 90
13	1859	"	"	Grange Church	679	300 90
14	1860	W. B. Lacy	"	Campbellton	774	200 00
15	1861	"	"	"	"	"
16	1862	"	"	"	"	"
17	1863	W. B. Lacy	Stephen Rowe	Campbellton	870	650 99
18	1864	"	"	Greenwood	952	500 00
19	1865	"	"	Friendship	1082	846 00
20	1866	"	"	Campbellton	1049	128 00
21	1867	W. H. Howell	"	Greenwood	953	184 00
22	1868	"	"	Antioch	953	"
23	1869	W. H. Banks	"	Friendship	935	"
24	1870	"	W. F. Jordon	Smyrna	654	127 00
25	1871	T. E. Langley	"	Campbellton	739	154 00
26	1872	"	W. J. Daniel	Greenwood	720	152 00
27	1873	"	"	Cedar Pond	629	183 00
28	1874	"	"	Friendship	698	204 00
29	1875	"	"	Campbellton	833	166 00
30	1876	"	"	Rocky Grove	663	177 00
31	1877	"	"	Greenwood	889	166 00
32	1878	"	"	Cedar Pond	771	111 00
33	1879	"	"	Damascus	292	82 00
34	1880	"	A. P. Ashurst	Campbellton	946	105 00
35	1881	"	W. J. Daniel	Friendship	823	125 00
36	1882	"	W. M. Farrior	Ebenezer	918	98 00
37	1883	"	"	Bethlehem	982	982 00
38	1884	"	"	Dellwood	1005	206 00
39	1885	W. J. Daniel	"	Rocky Grove	1018	231 15
40	1886	T. E. Langley	"	Greenwood	1006	263 80
41	1887	"	"	Magnolia	1120	213 00
42	1888	"	"	Chipley	1377	206 92
43	1889	"	"	Damascus	1052	257 00
44	1890	D. H. Horne	"	Ephesus	1141	263 15
45	1891	W. A. Bryan	"	Hickory Level	1159	680 90
46	1892	"	"	Piney Grove	950	147 40
47	1893	"	"	Wewahitchka	1117	200 80
48	1894	"	"	Ebenezer	1204	401 10
49	1895	J. P. Smith	"	Campbellton	1306	108 08
50	1896	W. A. Bryan	John M. Stevens	Friendship	1408	207 62

# STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES.	COUNTIES.	PASTORS.	CLERKS.	POST OFFICES.	DELEGATES.
Apalachicola	Franklin	Wm. Sapp	John T. Davis	Apalachicola	23 By letter
Bethlehem	Jackson	W. P. Richardson	S. W. Land	Kynsville	64 Willie McNeal, Henry Womble, An-
Bonifay	Holmes	J. P. Smith	J. W. Richardson	Chipley	44 Not represented. [drew Sizemore.
Cottontdale	Jackson	"	W. T. Graves	Cottontdale	22 C. E. Thomas, L. Massey, [A. H. uson
Campbellton	Washington	"	V. E. Colman	Campbellton	60 C. E. Jones, J. W. Carter, D. E. Pybus, B.
Chipley	"	"	E. P. Kinsey	Chipley	8 E. P. Kinney, W. M. Farrior, A. M.
Cromaton	"	"	W. A. Miller	Cromaton	20 By letter.
Caryville	Jackson	S. W. Lock	W. R. Pippin	Caryville	99 J. D. Courtney, J. H. Crutchfield, A. L.
Damascus	Washington	W. W. McIntosh	O. L. Gainer	Damascus	45 By letter. [White, A. J. Crutchfield.
Beazer	Washington	R. Harris	H. L. Sapp	Beazer	57 By letter. [Land, J. B. Williams, P. H.
Econlina	Jackson	S. W. Lock	J. M. Stevens	Econlina	35 By letter. [Land, J. B. Williams, P. H.
Friendship	"	J. R. Paramore	Noah Barefoot	Friendship	41 W. Stevens, N. L. Hart, Wm. Stand-
Greenwood	"	J. W. Johnson	F. G. Alsbrook	Greenwood	46 Harris, Anderson, Noah Barefoot, W. H.
Grassy Point	Washington	E. D. Nelson	J. H. Anderson	Grassy Point	33 By letter. [Godwin, J. D.
Green Head	Jackson	W. A. Bryan	W. T. Pumphyrey	Green Head	20 Not represented. [Pumphyrey,
Hickory Level	"	W. P. Richardson	J. S. C. Maund	Hickory Level	43 H. Porter, W. T. Pumphyrey, T. S.
Marianna	Holmes	E. D. Nelson	S. W. Robinson	Marianna	45 W. J. Daniel, R. J. Bone, M. L. Dekle.
Mount Olive	Washington	"	T. Peacock	Mount Olive	32 G. W. Rodgers, A. Strickland.
Mount Gds	Jackson	"	D. E. McQuage	Mount Gds	14 T. Peacock
Mount Wayfar	Washington	S. W. Lock	J. A. Jordan	Mount Wayfar	19 D. E. McQuage, John Coley.
New Hamony	"	"	J. A. Daniel	New Hamony	20 W. B. Daniel, S. L. Daniel,
Orange Ridge	"	"	W. H. Slay	Orange Ridge	53 Jas. Stuart, Wm. T. Brock, Perry Yawn.
Pilgrim's Rest	Jackson	R. Harris	C. C. Shoupe	Pilgrim's Rest	72 H. S. Tool,
Piney Grove	"	Wm. Sapp	D. W. Cutchin	Piney Grove	60 H. S. Lock, S. W. Lock.
Pleasant Hill	Washington	J. E. Nixon	J. D. W. Nixon	Pleasant Hill	31 H. E. Nixon.
Pleasant Ridge	"	Robert Harris	V. Casey	Pleasant Ridge	18 By letter.
St. Andrews	Jackson	M. E. Webb	J. H. Raley	St. Andrews	25 M. J. Webb.
Sneads	Washington	W. E. Zediker	A. F. Register	Sneads	57 By letter.
Unity	"	W. J. Hard	K. R. Holinger	Unity	24 W. C. Locke, w. P. Roche. [Bryan
Vernon	Washington	Robert Harris	W. A. Bryan	Vernon	49 H. A. Rish, Mrs N. L. Connell, W. A.
Wewahitchka	Calhoun	W. A. Bryan	R. Kent	Wewahitchka	51 F. Swails, S. W. Swails, Lija Kent.
White Pond	Jackson	S. W. Lock	W. L. Hutchinson	White Pond	24 W. C. Rodgers.
West Bay	Washington	R. Harris	W. L. Hutchinson	West Bay	
Totals					1468

## 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; Matt. 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 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; Ps. xiv. 1, 3; Rom. v. 12; John vi. 44; 1 Cor. xv. 20; Job xiv. 5-7; 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 and redemption made between the Father and the Son before the world began, 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 Thes. ii. 13; 1 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; Ps. xiv. John x. 9, 15; Rom. v. 1, 10.

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. 29; 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. 4, 5; 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; Matt. 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; Matt. xxv. 46; John v. 20-29; 2 Thes. 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.

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 1. These members who are regularly chosen by the churches, ministers and pastors in our union shall compose 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 baptized, received by letter, restored, dismissed, excommunicated 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, that those be considered that affect 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. 13 No member shall absent himself from the As-

sociation 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 reprov'd 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 Associations of the same faith and order, that the chain of communication 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 cause 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 assistant, 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.



