

MINUTES  
OF THE  
FIFTY-FIRST ANNUAL SESSION  
OF THE  
WEST FLORIDA  
Baptist Association

HELD WITH THE  
ChIPLEY Baptist Church

JACKSON CO., FLORIDA

October 15, 16, and 17

1897

OFFICERS

*Moderator*, W. A. BRYAN

*Clerk*, JOHN M. STEVENS

*Treasurer*, W. J. DANIEL

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

W. J. DANIEL, W. C. LOCKEY, M. F. BOONE  
M. L. DEKLE, E. Z. TAYLOR

Next session meets with the Vernon Baptist Church, Washington  
County, Florida, on Friday before the third  
Sunday in October, 1898

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**American Baptist Publication Society**

# MINUTES

OF THE

## Fifty-First Annual Session

OF THE

# West Florida Baptist Association.

HELD WITH THE

Chipley Baptist Church, Jackson County, Florida,

October 15 to 17, 1897.

## OFFICERS.

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

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

W. J. DANIEL, W. C. LOCKEY, M. F. BOONE, M. L.  
DEKLE, E. Z. TAYLOR.

Next session meets with the Vernon Baptist Church, Washington County, Florida, on Friday before the third Sunday in October, 1898.

OCALA, FLA.:  
THE BAPTIST WITNESS.  
1897.



### ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Call for Petitionary Letters.
2. Inviting Visiting Brethren to Seats.
3. Call for Correspondents.
4. Appointment of Committees on Preaching, Nominations, Publications, Deceased Ministers, Sunday Schools, Missions, Documents, Temperance, Finance, Education, Ministers' Assurance Association, Woman's Work.
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 Committees: 1. Executive Committee. 2. Missions. 3. Finance. 4. Temperance.
5. Sunday Schools. 6. 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. Call for Report on Ministerial Education.
17. Call for Report on Ministers' Assurance Association.
18. Call for Report on Woman's Work.
19. Appoint General Meeting.
20. Appoint Time and Place for Next Meeting.
21. Read and Adopt Minutes.
22. 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 .....	West Bay
J. F. Richardson .....	Econfina
T. N. Knowles .....	St. Andrews
D. F. Cox .....	Cottondale
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. Locke .....	Cottondale
L. T. Knizeley .....	Chipley
William J. Ward .....	Freeport
M. J. Webb .....	Apalachicola
E. B. Hughes .....	Campbellton
W. H. McIntosh .....	Graceville
S. B. Williford .....	Chipley
S. B. Rogers .....	Marianna
Benjamin Urton .....	Chipley

### LICENSED MINISTERS.

J. H. Crutchfield .....	Gracefield
R. E. Bonifay .....	Bonifay
J. E. W. Taylor .....	Cottondale
Eli English .....	Graceville
Z. W. Pettus .....	Clarkson
J. J. Taylor .....	Allie
H. K. Shearley .....	Kynesville
R. C. Helms .....	Granger, Ala.

## MINUTES.

FRIDAY, October 15, 1897.

The West Florida Baptist Association met to-day at 10:30 o'clock in the Chipley Baptist Church. The services were introduced by singing "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing," and Bro. J. P. Smith leading in prayer. Bro. M. J. Webb read the 107th Psalm, and Bro. R. Harris led in prayer. The congregation sang "Stand Up For Jesus," and Bro. N. L. Connell led in prayer. After singing "How Firm a Foundation" Bro. W. J. Sullivan led in prayer. After singing "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name" Bro. B. Urton read the 23d chapter of Matthew, the congregation sang "Jesus, Lover of My Soul," and Bro. W. A. Bryan led in prayer. After singing "Saviour, More Than Life to Me," Bro. B. Urton preached the Introductory Sermon from Matt. xxiii, 3: "They Say and Do Not." Adjourned for one hour and a half.

### AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Association reassembled, and, after singing "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing," the former Moderator read the 8th chapter of II. Corinthians and Bro. M. P. Gilmore led in prayer. J. H. Stephens, D. H. Horne and J. B. Hinson were appointed to collect the letters, and W. B. Gainer, S. M. Robinson and A. M. Mathews to read them. The following letters were read and messengers enrolled:

- Apalachicola—M. J. Webb.
- Bethlehem—C. E. Rawles, Charlie Scott, J. D. Cogburn, W. A. Swearingin.
- Bethel—W. Y. Tyler, N. T. Hawk, H. T. Wombel.
- Cottondale—A. F. Thomas.
- Campbellton—C. R. Jones, J. W. Carter, H. H. Hinson, R. A. Renfroe.
- Chipley—A. M. Mathews, W. M. Farrior, J. N. Daniel, Charles Cotton, J. D. Forrester.
- Damascus—J. H. White, E. A. Phillips, J. S. Heisler, J. B. Hinson, J. T. Carmichael.
- Ebenezer—W. J. Hickman, O. L. Pippin.

- Econfina—R. B. Mashburn, B. B. Brown, W. B. Gainer.
  - Ephesus—J. M. Paulk.
  - Friendship—J. M. Stevens, J. L. Anderson, P. H. Culpepper, J. H. Turner, J. B. Williams.
  - Graceville—G. B. Yawn, J. C. Jackson, W. J. Hall.
  - Greenwood—J. H. Stephens, E. H. Anderson, M. F. Boone.
  - Grassy Point—By letter.
  - Hickory Level—J. T. Pumphrey, R. J. Foxworth, Jesse Sewell.
  - Marianna—M. L. Dekle, J. Y. Folsom, W. J. Daniel.
  - Mt. Olive—S. C. Maund, W. J. Atwell, R. E. Jordan.
  - Mt. Ida—A. T. Posey, Alfred Posey.
  - Mt. Wayfair—W. L. Hodge, W. H. Ray, Albert Ray.
  - New Salem—John Coley.
  - Orange Hill—R. M. Peel, J. W. Peel, T. L. Daniel.
  - Oaky Ridge—W. H. Slay, W. T. Brock.
  - Pilgrim's Rest—G. H. Langley, R. D. Chuite Robert Lambert, Jesse Philman, Archie Cambell, J. A. Tool.
  - Piney Grove—G. S. Locke, M. R. Shores, J. B. Shores, W. H. Cremer, J. D. Crutchfield.
  - Pleasant Hill—Robert Nixon, D. W. Nixon.
  - Pleasant Ridge—By letter.
  - St. Andrews—Represented by J. P. Smith.
  - Sneads—W. B. Bryan, Wm. Grubs, C. W. Lanier.
  - Unity—W. J. Ward, Z. W. Pettus, W. W. A. Evans.
  - Vernon—W. P. Roche, A. F. Register, T. O. Roche.
  - Wewahitchka—R. J. Higgins, N. L. Connell, J. A. Connell.
  - White Pond—E. B. Kent, Samuel Stephens, Burris Kent.
  - West Bay—Bonnie Hutchinson, B. F. Thompson.
- On motion the above enrolled names were made the body of the Association. The body then went into the election of permanent officers, resulting in the re-election of W. A. Bryan, Moderator, and J. M. Stevens, Clerk, who returned thanks to the Association for their continued confidence. The Moderator appointed J. D. Forrester, A. M. Mathews, J. B. Williams, J. W. Carter and J. B. Hinson a Committee on Divine Services. The same order of business was adopted, after adding to it a Committee on Woman's Work. Petitionary letters being called for, the following letters and messengers were received: Macedonia, Henry Scott, C. C. Locke; New Orange, D. H. Horne, S. M. Robertson; Belleview, E. Z. Taylor. The Moderator extended the right hand of fellowship to the



messengers. The body fixed the time for meeting at 9 A. M. and 2 P. M., and to adjourn at will. The Committee on Divine Services appointed Bro. W. J. Sullivan to preach to-night. The committee of the Chipley Church then assigned homes to the messengers and visitors. The Association then adjourned to 7:30 P. M.

#### EVENING SESSION.

At 7:30 the Association reassembled and sang "Precious Promise," after which Bro. Sullivan led in prayer and preached from the 23d verse of Jude: "Pulling Them Out of the Fire." Bro. J. F. Richardson led in prayer and the choir sang "Whiter Than Snow." The Moderator then appointed the following committees:

On Nominations—M. J. Webb, R. D. Chuite, Robert Nixon, J. L. Anderson, J. B. Hinson, J. W. Johnson, W. C. Hickman.

On Publications—J. P. Smith, C. E. Rawles, C. R. Jones, J. H. Turner, W. W. A. Evans, J. H. Stephens.

On Deceased Ministers—R. J. Foxworth, E. H. Anderson, G. H. Langley, C. S. Locke, Elijah Kent, John Coley, Bonnie Hutchinsbn.

On Sunday Schools—E. Z. Taylor, R. B. Mashburn, D. W. Nixon, W. M. Farrior, J. D. Cogburn, M. L. Dekle, W. Y. Tyler.

On Missions—Benjamin Urton, R. Harris, Wm. Grubs, J. B. Shores, R. M. Peel, J. A. Tool, S. C. Maund, R. J. Higgins, Jesse Philman.

On Documents—J. W. Carter, W. H. Cremer, Samuel Stephens, J. A. Connell, W. P. Roche, Z. W. Pettus, M. R. Shores, J. D. Crutchfield, T. L. Daniel.

On Temperance—W. B. Bryan, Archie Cambell, Robert Lambert, W. H. Slay, Alfred Posey, W. H. Ray, W. T. Brock, W. J. Atwell, N. J. Hawk, O. L. Pippin.

On Finance—W. J. Daniel, W. B. Gainer, M. F. Boone, A. F. Register, Charles Cotton.

On Education—S. B. Rogers, R. E. Jordan, N. L. Connell, J. N. Daniel, T. O. Roche, R. A. Renfroe, A. T. Posey, Burris Kent.

On Ministers' Assurance Association—S. W. Locke, G. B. Yawn, J. C. Jackson, W. J. Hall, J. Y. Folsom, P. H. Culpepper, J. T. Carmichael, I. H. White, Charlie Scott.

On Woman's Work—W. M. Farrior, N. L. Connell, Jesse Sewell, J. S. Heisler, W. A. Swearingin, H. T. Wombel.

The Committee on Divine Services appointed Rev. J. C.

Porter to preach to-morrow at 11 A. M. The Association then adjourned until 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

#### SATURDAY—MORNING SESSION.

The Association assembled at 9 o'clock, and, after singing "The Morning Light Is Breaking," the Moderator read the eleventh Psalm and Bro. W. H. McIntosh led in prayer. The call for correspondents being made, the following responded: Rocky Creek Association, Bro. Z. Johnson; Columbia Association, Bro. J. J. White as a correspondent and Bro. M. P. Gilmore as a visitor; Florida Association, Bro. W. J. Sullivan as a visitor; Bro. J. C. Porter was received in the interest of the Baptist Witness, the State Board of Missions and the Stetson University. Correspondents were appointed as follows: To the Columbia Association, S. W. Locke; W. H. Cremer, J. M. Stevens; Rocky Creek Association, W. B. Bryan, J. H. Turner, E. D. Nelson, R. J. Foxworth; Graves Association, Benjamin Urton. Upon motion of Bro. Urton it was agreed that all visitors from this Association to other Associations may be recognized as correspondents. The Committee on Documents read their report, which was adopted. The report on deceased ministers was read. Bro. W. A. Bryan made some appropriate remarks, after which the report was adopted. A special prayer of thanks was offered by Bro. B. Urton. The time for the report on Sunday schools was set for 10 o'clock to-morrow. The report on nominations was read, discussed by Bro. Webb and adopted. The reports of the Executive Committee and Treasurer were read by Bro. W. J. Daniel and adopted. On motion the ninth order of business was amended by striking out the word "standing."

After some suggestions in regard to the statistical tables on the letter blanks by Bro. S. B. Rogers, and some explanation by Bro. J. C. Porter, the following committee was appointed to get up a form for church letters: S. B. Rogers, B. Urton, J. P. Smith and M. J. Webb. A motion was made by Bro. D. H. Horne to amend Article 2 of the Rules of Decorum, to the effect that the letters from the churches be not read publicly, but the subject matter in them be referred to committees. Business was then suspended for divine services, and the choir sang "Tolling On." Bro. Porter read the 7th chapter of John, and "Near the Cross" was sung. Bro. Porter then preached from the 6th chapter of John, and made an earnest appeal for the cause of missions. While singing "Stand Up For Jesus" a collection

was taken up for missions, amounting to \$18.65. Bro. J. J. White made some appropriate remarks, and led in prayer. Bro. Porter then spoke in behalf of the Witness, and made an appeal for subscribers and renewals. Adjourned for one hour and a half.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

At 2 P. M. the Association was called to order. The amendment to Article 2 of the Rules of Decorum was then taken up, and, after considerable discussion, the amendment was adopted. The time and place of holding the next meeting of the Association was taken up, and, after much discussion and many motions, it was agreed that the next session be held with the Vernon Church, commencing on Friday before the third Sunday in October, 1898. Missionary S. W. Locke read his report, and made some remarks concerning the work. Brethren Mathews and Farrior also spoke of the extent and needs of the field. The report was received. Missionary Robert Harris read his report, and made some appropriate and stirring remarks in regard to the work. The report was received. Bro. M. P. Gilmore was granted the privilege of presenting a petition in behalf of Mt. Wayfair Church, asking for help to build a house of worship. The report on Ministers' Assurance Association was read. Bro. Porter then explained the working of the Association, and made an appeal for members. The report was adopted. The Finance Committee made a report, and were required to add to their report the amount that had been sent up during the year for missions. On motion the Clerk was required to make a table that would show the amount of pastors' salaries, current expenses and value of church property. The Committee on Divine Services announced that Bro. S. B. Rodgers preach to-morrow at 11 A. M. in the Baptist Church, and Bro. J. J. White preach at the same hour in the Methodist Church. Bro. J. C. Porter led in prayer, after which the Association adjourned to 7:30 P. M.

#### EVENING SESSION.

At 7:30 P. M. the body assembled and sang "Coming Day". The report on education was read by Bro. S. B. Rogers. The floor was tendered to Bro. J. C. Porter, who gave a glowing account and recommendation of the Stetson University, and also gave the plans of work and the offers made by the Board of Trustees of that institution. A col-

lection was then taken for ministerial education, amounting to \$8.53, and the following pledges made: Z. W. Pettus, \$2; S. B. Rogers, \$5; W. B. Gainer, \$2; M. J. Webb, \$20. Bro. Rogers made a strong appeal to the Association to raise the means and place a young man in the Stetson University. After this discussion the report on education was adopted. The report on missions was read by Bro. Urton, who spoke to the report in a stirring manner, after which "Work For the Night Is Coming" was sung. On motion all speeches were limited to five minutes. Bro. Porter offered three resolutions to be added to the report on missions, which were accepted. Bro. Rogers made an earnest appeal to pastors to teach the people their duty on the subject of missions. The report on missions was then adopted. The report on temperance was read and spoken to by Brethren Bryan, Forrester, Mathews, Smith, Harris, Urton, Boone, Rogers, Nixon and Rev. R. A. Foster and adopted. On motion the Committee on Ministerial Education that was appointed several years ago was requested to make a report of its work. The body then went into the election of an Executive Committee, which resulted in the choice of W. J. Daniel, M. L. Dekle, W. C. Lockety, E. Z. Taylor and M. F. Boone.

Bro. W. J. Daniel asked the Association to make some disposition of the money raised from the pledges at the last Association. After some discussion it was ordered that the missionaries be paid the full amount of the pledges, \$112, in addition to the amount they had already received. The Association then adjourned to 9:30 A. M. to-morrow.

#### SUNDAY--MORNING SESSION.

The Association convened at 9:30, and, after singing "Why Do You Wait," the Moderator read the 133d Psalm and talked on the good of dwelling together in unity. Bro. N. L. Connell led in prayer, and the choir sang "Nearer, My God, to Thee." The Finance Committee then made its report, which was adopted. The minutes were read, corrected and adopted. On motion it was ordered that \$25 be expended for minutes, and the clerk be paid \$20 for his services. Also that the printing of the minutes be given to the Witness job office. Bro. Farrior then read the report of the former Committee on Ministerial Education, which was adopted. On motion Sister E. S. Taylor and Brethren D. H. Horne, J. P. Smith, S. B. Rogers and M. J. Webb were elected a Committee on Ministerial Education, and it was ordered that all funds for ministerial education, and the



collection taken for that purpose last night, be turned over to the committee. The report on Sunday schools was read and discussed by Bro. Taylor. Bro. Harris also talked on the subject, after which the report was adopted.

The Moderator made some appropriate remarks in regard to the pleasantness and profitableness of this session. The choir sang "Wait and Murmur Not," Bro. S. B. Rogers read the thirteenth chapter of Nehemiah, and Bro. W. A. Bryan led in prayer. After singing "My Redeemer," Bro. Rogers preached from Neh. iii. 8: "The Broad Wall," and closed by leading in prayer. While singing "From Greenland's Icy Mountains" a collection was taken up for missions, amounting to \$12.71. The parting hand was given while singing "God Be With You Till we Meet Again." The Association then adjourned to meet with the Vernon Baptist Church on Friday before the third Sunday in October, 1898.

## REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

### REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Your Executive Committee, at the last session of the Association, had at their disposal with which to operate within your bounds funds as follows: Cash on hand, \$88.29; pledges made at the last Association for the purpose of paying Brethren Lock and Harris for continuance of their labors as missionaries in the destitution of your Association, \$112. Appreciating the uncertainty of promises on paper, the committee thought it best not to enter into a contract with those brethren for more than five months of their time. On January 1 last they began their work under this contract at \$10 each per month, and continued until June 1 last. The committee has paid them each \$50, to conform to their agreement. During their labors under the auspices of the committee they made regular monthly reports, which was satisfactory to us, and will no doubt report their doings to this body, which, we trust, will be satisfactory to you.

Respectfully submitted,

W. J. DANIEL, Chairman.

### REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS.

Your committee submit the following: We have now connected with our foreign mission work 80 missionaries and 110 native assistants, distributed over Southern, Central and Northern China, West Africa, Italy, Brazil, Mexico

and Japan. Our home missions represent the destitution in our own country and Cuba, including all classes in our Southland and the red man of the Indian Territory. Each year the field is widening, and the Macedonian cry is heard from all quarters, "Come and help us." Our own State destitution is calling for the bread of life. They want to hear about the Saviour. Our responsibility forces itself upon us. What are we doing as an Association to forward the great work of the Master? The Lord has blessed our small efforts, and we should take fresh courage, and pray more and give liberally, that each one may feel himself a partner in this great work, and thus fulfill the great commission of our Lord. By so doing we lay up treasures in Heaven, where thieves cannot break through and steal. We recommend that our pastors preach often on the subject of missions, and keep their churches posted as to what is being done in our mission work. We need more of the spirit of missions. Hark! the voice of Jesus calling for more laborers in His vineyard. Shall we not heed the call?

Resolved, That every one of us give to missions. 2. That every one of us give to missions as the Lord prospers us. 3. That every one of us give to missions cheerfully.

Respectfully submitted,

BENJ. URTON, Chairman.

### REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE.

We, your committee, are glad to report a good work for the cause, especially among the good women who are wielding an influence in the cause of temperance. With this encouragement let us double our energies and determine as God's servants to uphold the banner of temperance, and the victory shall be ours and this great work accomplished. We recommend that this Association ask every church within its bounds to pass resolutions to withdraw fellowship from all members who may sign any petition authorizing the sale of any intoxicating drinks, or for the establishment of barrooms. Also that they withdraw fellowship from any church member who may engage in the manufacture for sale of domestic wines or other intoxicating drinks. Any church holding such members as have or may violate the above resolutions shall be deemed out of order, and this Association shall withdraw fellowship from all churches holding such members.

Respectfully submitted,

W. B. BRYAN, Chairman.

## REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

Your committee find, without close examination, that but few churches fail to send statistics of Sunday schools. It is great pleasure to us to see such decided improvement in this respect in the bounds of this Association. There is no question as to the advantage it is to the churches to keep up good Sunday schools; not only to the children, but to older ones, and all residents of a community are benefited. We earnestly insist that the churches which have no Sunday schools organize them at the first meeting after the adjournment of the Association. We are glad to discover from the reports that the old fatal and false idea that they can not be maintained by country churches is becoming obsolete. We recommend the literature of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board published at Nashville, Tenn., also that of the American Baptist Publication Society at Philadelphia. We believe that there is nothing outside of the preaching of the gospel upon which the future progress of our denomination so much depends as the establishment and diligent conducting of Sunday schools. And to this end we once more enjoin upon the churches to organize schools and offer encouragement to those already in operation.

Respectfully submitted,

E. Z. TAYLOR, Chairman.

## REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

Possibly at no period of the world's history has education had more universal attention, or so engrossed the minds of a thinking world, than it does to-day, and certainly the circumstances that attend the twilight of this nineteenth century demand more vigilance at the hands of parents, and diligent care over those mortal spirits which God has committed to their care, than at any time since the world began. We, your committee, find that good public schools are conveniently located in almost every locality in our bounds, and that our people are taking advantage of these opportunities and exercising some interest in an educational line. We heartily commend every interest manifested in this great cause, and recommend that our people make every honorable effort to give their children the advantage of every moment afforded them, and see to it that our teachers are of unquestionable character, and, if possible, identified with some Christian church.

For development of our churches we especially recommend that our State paper and other Baptist periodicals be

taken and read. We heartily indorse the Stetson University of DeLand, Fla., for higher education, of which we are justly proud, and feel confident it has not a peer in the South. We believe this Association could and should keep in that institution at least one of our deserving young ministerial students. We renew our fidelity to the Southern Theological Seminary of Louisville, Ky., and believe there is no better Baptist training school for preachers on the American continent. Respectfully submitted,

S. B. ROGERS, Chairman

## REPORT OF MISSIONARY LOCK.

I contracted with the Executive Committee in January, 1897, at \$10 per month for five months. Miles traveled, 1,150; sermons preached, 72; assisted in ordaining one preacher and two deacons; organized one church; religious visits to families, 10; addresses delivered, 7; members received by letter, 21; received by baptism, 33; by restoration, 10; commenced to build one meeting house; Bibles given away, 1; Bibles sold, 1; received from Executive Committee for services, \$50. Respectfully,

S. W. LOCK.

## REPORT OF MISSIONARY HARRIS.

I contracted with the Executive Committee to commence mission work January 1, 1897, at \$10 per month for half of my time, and up to May 30 did ten weeks' work. Miles traveled, 766; sermons preached, 47; prayers offered, 1,009; baptized, 2; Sunday schools organized, 3; Woman's Mission Societies organized, 1; received of the Executive Committee, \$50. I have continued the work since May 30 without any charge to the committee. Since June 1, miles traveled, 675; sermons preached, 53; baptized, 14; received by letter, 3; by restoration, 2; sold Testaments, donated by the State Board, 8; Bibles, 4. From the sales I received to my help, \$3.40; received on the field to my help, \$19.20. Respectfully,

ROBERT HARRIS.

## REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON DOCUMENTS.

We are glad to find most of our churches represented by letters and delegates. We find three petitionary letters asking membership in your body, to-wit: Macedonia, New Orange and Belleview. We find that Bethel and Vernon ask that the next session of this body meet with them.

Respectfully submitted,

J. W. CHUITE, Chairman.



## REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATIONS.

As the years go by they bring with them whatever of good or evil that determines the moral advancement or spiritual decline of all. What more elevates or depresses the inner forces of man's nature than the character of his thoughts? And these depend largely on the kind of books and papers that he reads. However orderly and moral—and I might say spiritual—the parents of any home, the children of that home are not half so secure against the corrupting and corroding influence of vice unless provided with and encouraged to read our choicest literature. The Baptist Witness should be in every Baptist home. Brother, how can you do without your own State paper, which puts us in vital touch with all the denominational work of our State? Take it a few years, and its visits will always be hailed with pleasure by all the family, and its absence would produce a feeling of loneliness. The Sunday school should be furnished with Baptist literature from Philadelphia or Nashville. The Foreign Mission Journal furnishes such reading matter as many or all of us stand greatly in need of to counteract the narrowness of our sympathies and create a breadth of affection that would include the entire world.

Respectfully submitted,

J. P. SMITH, Chairman.

## REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON DECEASED MINISTERS.

Your committee feel thankful to report that the Lord has been pleased to spare the lives of all the ministers in this Association. Let us show our appreciation of His kindness by increased efforts in His vineyard.

Respectfully submitted,

R. J. FOXWORTH, Chairman.

## REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS.

Your committee nominate J. W. Johnson to preach the Introductory Sermon at the next Association, and M. J. Webb as alternate. S. B. Rogers to preach the Missionary Sermon at the next Association, and J. P. Smith as alternate. S. B. Rogers as delegate to the Southern Baptist Convention, and M. J. Webb as alternate. Delegates to the Florida Baptist Convention: J. P. Smith, S. B. Rogers, W. A. Bryan, R. Harris, S. W. Lock, M. J. Webb, J. D. Forrester, M. L. Dekle, W. C. Lockey, S. M. Robinson, W. B. Gainer, Benjamin Urton, J. H. Stephens, E. N. Dekle.

Respectfully submitted,

M. J. WEBB, Chairman.

## REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON BAPTIST MINISTERS' ASSURANCE ASSOCIATION.

This is an organization for the relief of the families of deceased Baptist ministers. Any minister of our faith may become a beneficiary member by paying fifty cents and the assessments. Any one may become an honorary member by paying the assessment of one dollar upon the death of any beneficiary member. We insist that more of our leading lay members become members of the Ministers' Association, also that all our ministers become members as soon as possible.

Respectfully submitted,

S. W. LOCK, Chairman.

## REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON WOMAN'S WORK.

Woman's work in missions began in a feeble way nearly a hundred years ago, in 1800. Stirred by their zeal and success, followers of their efforts have not been lacking. Woman's work in missions is an admitted and appreciated factor in the world's evangelization. By these efforts woman is none the less a woman for developing her powers, none the less a church member for sharing the church's work, and none the less a Christian for undertaking to obey Christ's last command. Her success as an organizer and inventor of plans, a patient plodder, a sympathetic helper and an appreciator of "the day of small things," has eminently vindicated her right to exercise her gifts in leading other women. Among Southern Baptists, however, organization and systematic work was begun but nine years ago, since which time, working through the channels of correspondence, distribution of literature, annual meetings, special plans of collection and inaugurating the Christmas offering, Cuban brick card, woman's missionary department in the Foreign Mission Journal and Kind Words, as well as the band department, frontier boxes, weeks of prayer and self-denial work among our foreign and colored population and the Cuban girls' school and Cuban hospital. The Baptist women of the South have put into the Lord's treasury more than \$400,000 in addition to the general collections.

So much for the work in general. Now what of the work in our midst? In this Association there are six organizations—four societies and two bands—scarcely a tenth of the working force employed. Let the pastors within this Association organize and train this latent force into the channels of usefulness, and what an ingathering there would be for the Lord!

Respectfully submitted,

WM. M. FARRIOR, Chairman.

## REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

At the meeting of this body in 1893 a committee was appointed on ministerial education, consisting of Sister E. S. Taylor and Brethren W. M. Farior and D. H. Horne, and at the session in 1894 all the money contributed by churches and individuals for this purpose was put in the hands of the committee with full power to act. The following year Bro. M. J. Webb applied for the use of the funds to assist him at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. The total amount received and thus expended was \$150.25. Since that time no funds have come into our hands. None were reported as sent up last year. The sum of \$1 was contributed this year, which is in the hands of the Treasurer of the Association.

Respectfully submitted,  
E. S. TAYLOR,  
D. H. HORNE,  
J. P. SMITH,  
Committee.

## RESOLUTION OF THANKS.

Resolved, That this entire body return hearty thanks to the good people of Chipley and vicinity for their generous hospitality while among them, and especial thanks to the Reception Committee for their promptness in meeting and assigning homes to the delegates and visitors of this Association.

## TREASURER'S REPORT.

1896—		
Oct. 15.	By amount on hand last meeting of Association .....	\$ 23 09
Oct. 19.	By sundry amounts turned over to me .....	221 93
Nov. 2.	By amount received from Apalachi-cola Church .....	5 28
Nov. 6.	By amount deposited .....	5 25
1897—		
Jan. 18.	By amount received from West Bay Church .....	5 00
Jan. 26.	By amount received from Sneads Church .....	1 00
April 3.	By amount received from Marianna Sunday school .....	10 00
May 24.	By amount received from Mrs. Lott .....	1 00
July 9.	By amount received from Bethel Church .....	5 00

Aug. 19.	By amount received from Mrs. J. H. Stephens .....	1 00
Sept. 1.	By amount received from Chipley Sunday school .....	4 85
Oct. 11.	By amount received from Chipley Church .....	6 15
1896—		
Oct. 19.	To amount paid R. Harris .....	\$ 23 25
Oct. 19.	To amount paid S. W. Locke .....	10 25
Oct. 19.	To amount paid R. C. B. Lawrence .....	13 50
Oct. 19.	To amount paid M. Osborne .....	13 50
Oct. 19.	To amount paid Bro. Chaudoin .....	45 95
Oct. 24.	To amount paid J. M. Stevens .....	20 00
Nov. 4.	To amount paid Bro. Chaudoin .....	5 28
1897—		
Jan. 2.	To amount paid for minutes .....	25 00
Jan. 15.	To amount paid S. W. Locke .....	20 00
Jan. 24.	To amount paid R. Harris .....	20 00
Mar. 20.	To amount paid S. W. Locke .....	10 00
April 20.	To amount paid S. W. Locke .....	6 00
April 28.	To amount paid S. W. Locke .....	4 00
May 27.	To amount paid S. W. Locke .....	10 00
June 25.	To amount paid R. Harris .....	30 00
	Balance due Association .....	32 82

Totals .....

1897—		
Oct. 15.	By cash on hand at commencement of this session .....	32 82
Oct. 16.	By public collection for missions .....	18 65
Oct. 17.	By public collection for missions .....	12 71
Oct. 17.	By pledges collected at this session, made at last .....	53 25
Oct. 17.	By cash sent up by the churches at this session .....	204 60
	Total cash on hand .....	\$322 03



### REPORT ON FINANCE.

CHURCHES.	Association Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Home Missions.	State Missions.	Minutes.	Association Purposes.	Woman's Missionary Society.
Apalachicola							
Belleview	\$ 1 50	\$ 1 00			\$ 1 00		
Bethlehem	50			\$ 4 00	50		
Bethel					1 00		
Cottondale				3 85			
Campbellton			\$ 5 25				
Chipley	5 50				75		
Cromaton	30 97				50		
Caryville					1 00	1 00	
Damascus							
Ebenezer	50	1 55	2 00		1 00		
Econflua	3 37	3 25	3 25		50	25	
Ephesus	1 00	50	1 00		50	25	
Friendship					50		
Graceville	5 00	2 35			50	1 00	
Greenwood	1 40		1 45	2 00	1 50	1 00	
Grassy Point		10 00	5 00		50	50	
Hickory Level	1 30			5 00	2 00	3 00	
Macedonia					30	25	
Marianna			1 40		25	3 30	
Mount Olive	2 10	5 00	5 00	5 00	25		
Mount Ida			1 10				
Mount Wayfair		1 00	50		50		
New Salem					25	50	
New Harmony					50	1 00	
New Orange					25	50	
Orange Hill			1 50				
Oaky Ridge	1 80				35	25	
Pilgrim's Rest				2 60	50	25	
Piney Grove		3 65	25		50		
Pleasant Hill					80	1 50	
Pleasant Ridge		2 25	1 00		75	3 85	
St. Andrews	3 21				50	50	
Sneads					50	25	
Unity					5 50		
Vernon					1 00		
Wewahitchka	2 25					1 65	
White Pond		1 50	5 00		50	25	
West Bay	3 50	50	1 00		75		
Totals	\$63 90	\$29 625	\$31 775	\$22 45	\$20 45	\$80 05	

### REPORT ON FINANCE.—CONTINUED.

CHURCHES.	Ministerial Education.	Aged Ministers.	Total from Each Church.	Sent During the Year for Missions.	Total Paid During the Year.	Value of Church Property.
Apalachicola						
Belleview			\$ 1 00	\$ 3 00	\$ 4 00	\$ 1,000 00
Bethlehem		\$ 1 00		3 00	11 00	
Bethel			1 50		1 50	275 00
Cottondale			3 85	5 00	8 85	
Campbellton	\$ 1 00		7 00	17 45	24 45	
Chipley			6 00	4 95	10 95	400 00
Cromaton			32 97	128 05	161 02	1,000 00
Caryville						
Damascus						
Ebenezer			5 30		5 30	
Econflua			4 77		4 77	75 00
Ephesus			3 00		3 00	
Friendship			1 50		1 50	
Graceville			11 85		11 85	150 00
Greenwood			3 85		3 85	
Grassy Point			25 00		25 00	500 00
Hickory Level			1 85		1 85	
Macedonia			3 55		3 55	
Marianna			1 65		1 65	
Mount Olive			17 10	83 85	100 95	2,000 00
Mount Ida	1 00		2 60		2 60	
Mount Wayfair			2 25		2 25	75 00
New Salem			1 50		1 50	
New Harmony			75		75	50 00
New Orange						
Orange Hill		1 35				
Oaky Ridge			3 35		3 35	
Pilgrim's Rest			2 40		2 40	
Piney Grove			3 10		3 10	
Pleasant Hill			6 20		6 20	
Pleasant Ridge			4 60		4 60	25 00
St. Andrews			4 25		4 25	
Sneads			3 98		3 98	300 00
Unity			5 50	6 86	12 36	300 00
Vernon			2 00	3 00	5 00	800 00
Wewahitchka			1 65		1 65	
White Pond			3 00		3 00	
West Bay			8 25	1 00	9 25	750 00
Totals	\$ 1 00	\$ 5 85	\$ 204 60	\$ 261 16	\$ 465 78	\$7,700 00

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES.	COUNTIES.	PASTORS.	CLERKS.	POST OFFICES.
Apalachicola	Franklin		J. T. Davis	Apalachicola.
Belleview	Calhoun	M. J. Webb	J. K. Isbell	Wewahitchka.
Bethlehem	Jackson	W. A. Bryan	W. A. Swearingin	Kynesville.
Bethel	Holmes	W. P. Richardson	J. W. Richardson	Chipley.
Cottondale	Jackson	W. A. Bryan	W. T. Graves	Cottontdale.
Campbellton	Jackson	J. P. Smith	R. A. Renfro	Campbellton.
Chipley	Washington	S. B. Rogers	V. E. Coleman	Chipley.
Cromaton	Washington			
Caryville	Washington			
Damascus	Jackson	W. H. McIntosh	A. J. Crutchfield	Graceville.
Ebenezer	Washington	R. Harris	J. M. Simmons	Vernon.
Econfina	Washington		W. R. Gainer	Econfina
Ephesus	Jackson	M. P. Gilmore	H. L. Sapp	Campbellton.
Friendship	Jackson	D. E. Burdeshaw	J. M. Stevens	Bolton.
Graceville	Jackson	J. T. Register	Noah Barefoot	Graceville.
Greenwood	Washington	J. J. White	T. G. Alsobrook	Greenwood.
Grassy Point	Washington	R. Harris	J. H. Anderson	Anderson.
Hickory Level	Washington	W. D. Simpson	J. H. Porter	Marianna.
Macedonia	Washington	E. D. Nelson	C. C. Locke	Chipley.
Marianna	Jackson	S. B. Rogers	J. C. Davis	Marianna.
Mt. Olive	Holmes	W. P. Richardson	S. C. Maund	Bonifay.
Mt. Ida	Washington		S. W. Robinson	Wausau.
Mt. Wayfair	Jackson	M. P. Gilmore	W. L. Peacock	Greenwood.
New Salem	Washington	G. B. Hews	D. E. McQuagge	Marianna.
New Orange	Washington	Benj. Urton	W. T. Horne	Orange Hill.
New Harmony	Washington			
Orange Hill	Washington	W. H. McIntosh	S. L. Daniel	Orange Hill.
Oaky Ridge	Washington	S. W. Locke	W. H. Slay	Orange Hill.
Pilgrim's Rest	Jackson	S. W. Locke	C. C. Shoupe	Cottontdale.
Piney Grove	Jackson	J. W. Johnson	J. B. Shores	Cottontdale.
Pleasant Hill	Jackson	J. E. Nixon	D. W. Nixon	Nixon.
Pleasant Ridge	Washington	R. Harris	L. Casey	Pt. Washington.
St. Andrews	Washington	J. P. Smith	Vestrus Brock	St. Andrews.
Sneads	Jackson		J. Lott	Sneads.
Unity	Washington	E. D. Nelson	W. W. Evans	Miller's Ferry.
Vernon	Washington	R. Harris	W. P. Roche	Vernon.
Wewahitchka	Calhoun	J. P. Smith	J. R. Hollinger	Wewahitchka.
White Pond	Jackson	Wm. Sapp	Burris Kent	Chipley.
White Pond	Jackson	R. Harris	W. L. Hutchinson	West Bay.

STATISTICAL TABLE.—CONTINUED.

CHURCHES.	Baptized.	Rec'd by Letter.	Restored.	Dis. by Letter.	Erased.	Excluded.	Died.	Male Members.	Females.	Total Membership.	MESSENGERS.
Apalachicola	4	2						2	18	25	M. J. Webb.
Belleview	12	3	2				1	10	11	21	E. Z. Taylor.
Bethlehem	11	8	1	4			3	37	41	78	C. E. Rawls, Charlie Scott.
Bethel								30	29	59	W. J. Tyler, N. T. Hawk, H. J. Wombel.
Cottondale	6	3		5			1	14	11	25	A. F. Thomas.
Campbellton	3	1	6	3				24	38	62	H. H. Hinson, R. A. Renfro, C. R. Jones, J. W. Carter.
Chipley		5	1	14	2	1		40	46	86	Charles Cotton, J. D. Porrester, A. M. Mathews, W. M. Farrior, J. N. Daniel.
Cromaton											Not represented.
Caryville											Not represented.
Damascus	16	5	10	2	8	1				130	J. H. White, E. A. Phillips, J. S. Heisler, J. B. Hinson, J. T. Carmichael.
Ebenezer	3	4		1	12	1		9	17	26	W. C. Hickmond, O. L. Pippin.
Econfina	1	3						14	30	44	R. R. Mashburn, B. B. Brown, W. B. Gainer.
Ephesus	23	3	2	5				36	50	86	J. M. Paulk.
Friendship	2	3	3		2	1		24	75	99	J. M. Stevens, J. L. Anderson, P. H. Culpepper, J. H. Turner, J. B. Williams.
Graceville	2	5		1	3	1	15	28		43	G. B. Yawn, J. C. Jackson, W. J. Hall.
Greenwood	1	6			1	1	18	28		46	J. H. Stephens, E. H. Anderson, M. F. Boone.
Grassy Point	1				20		7	8		15	By letter.
Hickory Level	1	2			2	1				50	J. T. Pumphrey, R. J. Foxworth, Jesse Sewell.
Macedonia		2					7	8		15	Henry Scott, C. C. Locke.
Marianna	6	9		1		1	23	32		55	M. L. Dekle, J. Y. Folsom, W. J. Daniel.
Mt. Olive	12	2	1	1	7	1	15	21		36	S. C. Maund, W. J. Atwell, R. E. Jordan.
Mount Ida	1						7	7		14	A. T. Posey, Alfred Posey.
Mt. Wayfair	13	9								41	W. L. Hodge, W. H. Ray, Albert Ray.
New Salem	2	1	1	4		7	7	9		16	John Coley.
New Orange	3	1		2			8	10		18	D. H. Horne, S. M. Robertson.
New Harmony											Not represented.
Orange Hill	11	1					7	23		30	R. M. Peel, J. W. Peel, T. L. Daniel.
Oaky Ridge		1	11		1		21	21		42	W. H. Slay, W. T. Brock.
Pilgrim's Rest	22	2	8	3	1	1	36	64		100	G. H. Langley, R. D. Chulte, Robert Lambert, Jesse Philman, Archie Cambell, J. A. Tool.
Piney Grove	1	4		9	2		22	31		53	C. S. Locke, M. R. Shores, J. B. Shores, W. H. Creamer, J. D. Crutchfield.
Pleasant Hill	5						15	19		34	Robert Nixon, D. W. Nixon.
Pleasant Ridge				11	4		4	9		13	By letter.
St. Andrews	34	4		1		3	21	36		57	Represented by J. P. Smith.
Sneads	4	11		2	4	1	14	17		31	W. B. Bryan, Wm Grubs, C. W. Lanier.
Unity	5	1		3	3		22	35		57	W. J. Ward, Z. W. Pettus, W. W. A. Evans.
Vernon	8	1			1	2	15	15		30	W. P. Roche, A. F. Register, T. O. Roche.
Wewahitchka	1	1		13			12	19		31	R. J. Higgins, N. L. Connell, J. A. Connell.
White Pond	8				2		22	32		54	E. B. Kent, Samuel Stephens, Burris Kent.
West Bay	2			1			12	14		26	Bonnie Hutchinson, B. F. Thompson.
Total	223	117	35	101	88	52	16	575	852	1648	



### 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	198	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	106 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	985	"
24	1870	"	W. F. Jordan	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	880	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	1066	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	208 15
45	1891	W. A. Bryan	"	Hickory Level	1159	680 90
46	1892	"	"	Piney Grove	950	147 40
47	1893	"	"	Wewahitchka	1117	200 00
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
51	1897	"	John M. Stevens	Chipley	1648	244 21

### CHURCH AND SUNDAY SCHOOL STATISTICS.

CHURCHES.	Pastors' Salaries.	Repairs and Expenses.	Contributed for Charities.	SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS.	Officers and Teachers.	Number of Students.	Contributed for Expenses.	Contributed for Missions.
Apalachicola				L. G. Harding	5	30	\$ 17 00	
Belleview	\$ 50 00	\$ 115 00	\$ 20 00	E. Z. Taylor	7	39	4 45	2 35
Bethlehem	75 00			J. D. Rawls	7	39	7 50	
Cottondale	15 66			S. B. Wombel	6	35	4 45	
Chipley	60 00			J. L. Massey	7	32	10 02	
Friendship	482 00		\$ 15 00	J. D. Forrester	7	70	5 85	3 57
Greenwood	75 00			J. M. Stevens	10	60	6 00	
Magnolia	20 00			K. H. Yawn	11	60	2 90	
Mountain				K. H. Yawn	6	25		
North Olive	482 40		106 52	M. A. Maund	4	34	20 00	31 66
New Orlens				M. A. Maund	4	34		
New Orleans				D. E. McQuarrie	4	34		
Orange Hill	35 00			R. D. Chute	8	38	1 50	65
Pilgrims Rest	17 52			E. Singleton	5	40		
Piney Grove	25 95			V. D. Greene	8	30	28 79	1 50
Pleasant Hill	11 40			W. B. Bryan	8	40	3 26	4 00
St. Andrews	150 00			N. L. Connell	8	34	13 00	
Sneads	50 00			W. L. Hutchinsou	4	39	2 08	
Wewahitchka					4	39		
West Bay					4	39		
Total.	\$1449 07	\$1099 52	\$40 00		108	680	\$129 55	\$48 03

## 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; I. 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. II. Tim. iii. 16, 17; II. Peter i. 21; II. 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; Ps. xiv. 1, 3; Rom. v. 12; John vi. 44; I. 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. John xv. 16, 17; Isa. xi. 8, 9; Eph. i. 4, 11; Acts xiii. 48; II. Thes. ii. 13; I. Peter i. 2; Rom. viii. 29, 30; Rom. ix. 11, 13, 23; xi. 4, 7; II. 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; I. Peter i. 3-9; Heb. vi. 16-20; John xvii. 2, 3; II. 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; I. Peter 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; II. Cor. v. 10; I. Cor. xv. 12, 29; Acts xvii. 31; Matt. xxv. 46; John v. 20-29; II. 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.

## RULES OF DECORUM.

ARTICLE I. 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. Said letters as presented shall be filed with the Clerk of the Association, and their subject matter referred to proper committees for consideration and report.

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 delegate 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 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 reprovod 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 can not 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.

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