

MINUTES
— OF THE —
FIFTY - SECOND
Annual Session

— OF THE —
West Florida Baptist Association,

— HELD WITH —
Vernon Baptist Church, Washington County, Florida,
October 14, 15 and 16, 1898.

OFFICERS.

W. A. BRYAN..... Moderator.
W. M. FARRIOR..... Clerk.
M. L. DEKLE..... Treasurer.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

W. B. GAINER, W. C. LOCKEY, M. F. BOONE, M. L. DEKLE,
E. Z. TAYLOR.

Next session meets with the Cottondale Baptist Church,
Jackson County, Florida, on Friday before the
third Sunday in October, 1899.

SAMPSON LIBRARY
JOHN B. STETSON UNIVERSITY
DeLAND FLORIDA

MINUTES
— OF THE —
FIFTY-SECOND
Annual Session
— OF THE —
West Florida Baptist Association,

— HELD WITH —
Vernon Baptist Church, Washington County, Florida,
October 14, 15 and 16, 1898.

OFFICERS.

W. A. BRYAN.....Moderator.
W. M. FARRIOR.....Clerk.
M. L. DEKLE.....Treasurer.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

W. B. GAINER, W. C. LOCKEY, M. F. BOONE, M. L. DEKLE,
E. Z. TAYLOR.

Next session meets with the Cottondale Baptist Church,
Jackson County, Florida, on Friday before the
third Sunday in October, 1899.

OCALA, FLA.:
BAPTIST WITNESS BOOK AND JOB PRINT.
1898.

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:

Z. W. PETTUS.....	Clarkson	G. S. LOCK.....	Kynesville
J. H. CRUTCHFIELD.....	Graceville	J. P. SMITH.....	Chipley
W. P. RICHARDSON.....	Chipley	E. D. NELSON.....	Orange Hill
WILLIAM SAPP.....	Campbellton	J. E. NIXON.....	Nixon
ROBERT HARRIS.....	West Bay	J. F. RICHARDSON.....	Econfinia
T. N. KNOWLES.....	St. Andrews	J. D. COURTNEY.....	Graceville
J. W. JOHNSON.....	Graceville	R. C. B. LAWRENCE.....	Dellwood
W. A. BRYAN.....	Cottondale	JOHN LONG.....	Campbellton
GEORGE CROFTON.....	Caryville	A. T. POSKY.....	Alpine
T. S. SCOTT.....	Bonifay	S. W. LOCKE.....	Chipley
L. T. KNIZELEY.....	Chipley	W. H. MCINTOSH.....	Graceville
S. B. WILLIFORD.....	Campbellton	S. B. ROGERS.....	Marianna
BENJAMIN URTON.....	Chipley		

LICENSED MINISTERS.

R. E. JORDAN.....	Bonifay	J. E. W. TAYLOR.....	Cottondale
ELI ENGLISH.....	Graceville	J. J. TAYLOR.....	Allie
H. K. SHEARLEY.....	Kynesville	R. C. HELMS.....	Granger, Ala.
P. B. O'CONNOR.....	Wright		

MINUTES.

Vernon, Fla., October 14, 1898.

The West Florida Baptist Association met this day in the Vernon Academy. After singing "There is a fountain," Bro. W. A. Bryan led in prayer.

Elder J. W. Johnson preached the Introductory Sermon from 1 Tim. 3 : 16—"God was manifest in the flesh," etc. The services were concluded by prayer by Bro. B. Urton.

It was announced that dinner, was prepared on the grounds for everybody. At 1:30 the delegates were requested to meet in the house for business.

Afternoon.

At the appointed hour the messengers assembled and sang "How firm a foundation." The Moderator read John 15, and prayer was offered by Bro. D. E. Berdshaw. By request the letters were collected by Brethren M. F. Boone, E. Z. Taylor and W. C. Lockey.

The following churches and messengers were enrolled :

Apalachicola—By letter.
Bethlehem—J. D. Rawls, S. W. Land, S. W. Land, Jr.
Belleview—E. Z. Taylor, J. G. Stewart,
Bethel—W. A. Hardy.
Cottondale—W. A. Bryan.
Campbellton—J. W. Carter.
Chipley—W. M. Farrior, W. C. Lockey, A. M. Mathews, J. D. Forester, V. E. Coleman.
Damascus—J. H. Taylor, W. A. Miles, W. E. Parker, J. T. Carmichael, W. W. Parker.
Ebenezer—O. L. Pippin, J. T. Carter.
Econfinia—W. R. Gainer, R. B. Mashburn, W. B. Gainer.
Ephesus—J. B. Paulk, J. O. Christmas.
Friendship—E. V. McDaniels, J. M. Stevens.
Graceville—G. B. Yawn, E. O. Wombwell, Berry Yawn.
Greenwood—M. F. Boone, J. H. Stephens, Paul Long.
Grassy Point—Wade DeShazo.
Hickory Level—R. J. Foxworth.
Marianna—S. B. Rogers.
Mount Olive—S. C. Maund, T. O. Phillips.
Macedonia—Joel Sapp, S. W. Lock.
Mount Ida—G. W. Rodgers.
Mount Wayfair—Not represented.
Mount Zion—Thomas Rooks.
New Salem—By letter.

New Orange—P. L. Horne.
 Orange Hill—T. L. Daniel, J. A. Vickers.
 Orange Ridge—James M. Steward, Wm. T. Brock.
 Pilgrim's Rest—J. D. Shoupe, C. S. Shirey, J. U. Parish.
 Piney Grove—M. R. Shores, W. H. Creaner, J. B. Shores.
 Pleasant Hill—D. W. Nixon, James Nixon.
 Pleasant Ridge—A. R. Holley.
 St. Andrews—Not represented.
 Sneads—W. B. Bryan.
 Unity—R. F. Evans, W. W. Evans.
 Vernon—A. F. Register, W. P. Roche.
 Wewahitchka—U. L. Connell.
 White Pond—By letter.
 West Bay—B. F. Thompson.

Upon motion the delegates enrolled were made the body of the Association.

Upon motion Mount Zion Church was reinstated.

Upon motion the body went into the election of officers.

The following were elected: W. A. Bryan, Moderator; W. M. Farrior, Clerk.

After expressions of hearty thanks by the Moderator to the body for the continued confidence placed in him, he stated that the body was ready for business.

The Moderator appointed the delegates of Vernon Church—W. B. Bryant, S. W. Land, W. B. Mashburn.

Resolved, that Article 2 of the Rules of Decorum be amended, striking out latter part of same, and have letters read before the body.

Upon motion the order of business was amended and the letters were referred to the Committee on Documents.

Call for petitionary letters. The following churches and delegates were enrolled:

Bascom—J. W. Godwin, C. A. Boone.
 Bethany—J. B. O'Conner, W. T. Taylor.
 Beulah—A. M. Pate, A. M. Wilcox.
 Caryville—A. Stuckey.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON DIVINE SERVICES.

Brother D. E. Berdeshaw to preach at 8 p.m. in the court house.

Resolved that the time of meeting be at 9 a.m.

Evening Session.

At 8 p.m. divine services began. Rev. J. P. Smith led in prayer. Rev. D. Berdeshaw preached from Luke 17:5—"Lord, increase our faith." After the sermon and old-time hand-shaking was enjoyed, prayer was offered by W. A. Bryan.

The Moderator announced the following committees:

On Nominations—J. W. Johnson, J. G. Stuart, D. W. Nixon, J. D. Rawls, A. R. Holly.

On Missions—S. B. Rogers, S. W. Locke, E. O. Wamble, W. R. Gainer, J. M. Stuart, W. W. Parker.

On Baptist Ministers' Assurance Association—R. Harris, S. W. Land, J. H. Taylor, Berry Yawn, W. E. Parker.

On Finance—M. F. Boone, Paul Long, V. E. Coleman, J. W. Godwin.

On Woman's Work—J. D. Forester, J. G. Carter, W. H. McIntosh.

On Temperance—D. E. Berdeshaw, N. L. Connell, W. B. Bryan, C. S. Shirey, T. H. Rooks, J. E. Nixon.

On Sunday Schools—E. Z. Taylor, R. F. Thompson, J. D. Shoupe, M. R. Shores, Joel Sapp, O. L. Pippins.

On Education—W. C. Locke, J. W. Carter, J. H. Taylor, G. W. Rodgers, E. D. Nelson.

On Documents—J. P. Smith, P. L. Horne, G. B. Yawn, S. C. Maund, B. F. Evans, A. T. Posey.

On Deceased Ministers—W. P. Richardson, J. T. Carmichael, J. W. Parish, W. T. Brock, J. B. Shores.

Adjourned until 9 a.m. Saturday morning.

Morning Session.

At 9 a.m. the messengers met in the academy. Divine services were conducted by the Moderator. After reading Ps. 116 and some remarks, Bro. M. Anderson led in prayer.

Call for Visitors.—Bro. R. F. Lawrence answered from Rocky Creek, which meets Friday before fourth Sunday in October. Brother William Daniel from Columbia, which meets Wednesday before first Sunday in November.

Call for Correspondents.—Brethren D. Anderson and M. Anderson from the Graves, which meets at Ponce de Leon Friday before second Sunday in October. Rev. S. L. Loudermilk responded from Newton, which meets Friday before second Sunday in October.

Upon motion the body adjourned at 11 a.m. for preaching, to meet at 1 p.m. for business.

Committee on Divine Services reported that Bro. S. L. Loudermilk would preach at 11 a.m.

Rev. D. E. Berdeshaw responded as correspondent from the Judson.

APPOINTMENT OF CORRESPONDENTS.

To Rocky Creek, Oct. 21, 22 and 23—W. B. Bryant, R. J. Foxworth, J. G. Stuart.

Graves, meets Friday before second Sunday in October—Benjamin Urton, T. O. Phillips, C. S. Lock, Joel Sapp, W. M. Farrior.

Newton, meets Friday before second Sunday in October—J. E. Nixon, A. F. Register, R. J. Foxworth, N. L. Connell, J. M. Stephens.

Judson, meets Thursday before first Sunday in October—J. E. Nixon, W. A. Bryan, J. M. Stephens, S. W. Locke.

Columbia, meets Wednesday before first Sunday in November—S. W. Locke, T. O. Phillips, J. M. Stephens, W. A. Bryan.

Report on Missions special order for 7:30 p.m.

Report on Publications was read by Bro. B. Urton and after remarks by Brethren Urton, S. B. Rogers, R. Harris, J. P. Smith, E. Z. Taylor, J. W. Johnson and J. D. Forester, it was adopted.

REPORT ON PUBLICATIONS

We, your Committee on Publications, submit the following report: Realizing that a healthy state of our people depends on the food they eat and also that we as a denomination, to keep in a healthy state, must have good, wholesome literature, each Baptist family should be provided with a paper that supports the doctrines of our denomination. If our people would take and read our denominational papers they would love our church better, be better informed both as to the beliefs and work of the church. Our one state paper, the Florida Baptist Witness, has had a hard struggle to live, and we earnestly recommend that paper to the sympathy and support of our brethren. The Foreign Mission Journal should be a welcome visitor to every home. For the Sunday schools we recommend the works of the Southern Baptist Convention and American Baptist Publication Society.

BENJ. URTON,
W. A. MILES,
R. J. FOXWORTH,
E. V. MCDANIEL.

Adjourned for preaching by Rev. S. L. Loudermilk.
Text, Mark I : 15.

After services a collection of \$12.48 was taken up for the benefit of aged ministers.

Evening Session.

At 1 p.m. the body met for business.

Appointments of General Meetings.—The first fifth Sunday to be held with Damascus.

Committee on Divine Services announced that Bro. D. Anderson would preach at the arbor. Text, Luke 10 : 35—
"Go thou and do likewise."

The following report was read and adopted :

REPORT ON NOMINATIONS.

Your committee nominate S. B. Rogers to preach the introductory sermon at the next Association, Benj. Urton, alternate; J. P. Smith to preach the missionary sermon, R. Harris, alternate; Benj. Urton, delegate to the Southern Baptist Convention, J. D. Forester, alternate.

Delegates to the Florida Baptist Convention: J. W. Johnson, S. B. Rogers, E. N. Dekle, R. J. Foxworth, K. F. Wise, J. W. Rawls, W. A. Bryan, R. Harris,

M. L. Dekle, W. C. Loekey, W. H. McIntosh, A. M. Matthews, S. W. Locke, J. M. Stephens.

Executive Committee: M. F. Boone, W. B. Gainer, W. C. Loekey, M. L. Dekle, E. Z. Taylor.* Respectfully submitted.

J. W. JOHNSON,
J. G. STEWART,
D. W. NIXON,
J. D. RAWLS,
A. R. HOLLY.

REPORT ON MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

By amount turned over to me last association.....	\$ 9 00
By amount W. B. Gainer.....	2 01
By amount S. B. Rogers, collected.....	5 00
Total.....	\$16 00
Disbursements none.....	
Amount on hand.....	\$16 00

S. B. ROGERS, Treasurer Education Committee.

The report on Temperance was read and after remarks by Brethren W. B. Bryan, Connell, S. B. Rogers, Charles, J. F. Smith, J. D. Forester, S. B. Loudermilk, A. M. Mathews, R. Harris and W. A. Bryan, it was adopted.

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

We, your Committee on Temperance, report that we have had the subject under consideration, and from time to time we find reports on temperance brought in and adopted; at the same time intemperance is unrestricted. Therefore we recommend that all Baptists use their influence against the power of intemperance. For as Solomon says, "Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging, and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise."

D. E. BERDESHAW,
N. L. CONNELL,
W. B. BRYAN,
C. S. SHIREY,
T. H. ROOKS,
J. E. NIXON.

REPORT ON DECEASED MINISTERS.

It is again demonstrated that precious is the life, as well as the death, of His saints. Not a single recruiting officer of the West Florida Association has dropped out of the ranks this year. The Heavenly Father has been very good to us all. But as he gave the church at Pergamos time to repent of all her errors, may we all heed this admonition. Let us render thanks to the Lord for all his benefits, take the cup of salvation, and pay our vows.

W. P. RICHARDSON,
J. T. CARMICHAEL,
J. U. PARISH,
W. T. BROCK,
J. B. SHORES.

SAMPSON LIBRARY
JOHN B. STETSON UNIVERSITY
DeLAND ✦ FLORIDA

REPORT ON FINANCE.

CHURCHES.	Association Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Home Missions.	State Missions.	Minutes.	Association Purposes.
Apalachicola	\$	\$ 2 50	\$	\$	\$ 50	\$
Belleview					50	55
Bethlehem	1 50				1 00	
Bethel	2 20		40		55	
Cottdale				2 15	60	1 40
Campbellton	4 35			1 00	1 00	2 00
Chipley	25 02				1 00	
Cromanton						
Caryville						
Damascus			1 50		1 00	50
Ebenezer					1 50	1 25
Econfla	2 00		1 00	75	40	
Ephesus					50	1 00
Friendship	3 70				1 50	1 50
Graceville			75		50	
Greenwood		2 00	14 00		1 00	2 00
Grassy Point	3 20				20	
Hickory Level		1 00	1 90		25	
Macedonia	1 00				25	50
Marianna					1 50	26 00
Mount Olive			50		30	50
Mount Ida					25	75
Mount Wayfair						
New Salem					25	75
New Harmony						
New Orange						1 50
Orange Hill	75				35	25
Oaky Ridge				1 00	50	1 70
Pilgrim's Rest		1 00			75	75
Piney Grove	10		1 00		50	1 50
Pleasant Hill	50				50	1 00
Pleasant Ridge	2 15	1 00	1 00	1 00	50	75
St. Andrews						1 00
Sneads			50		1 00	1 00
Unity					35	90
Vernon	1 45	1 35	1 40	1 40	50	25
Wewahitchka	3 00		1 00	3 00	75	25
White Pond			40		40	25
West Bay	2 25				50	25
Bascom			27 70		1 00	2 00
Mount Zion			50		50	50
Bethany			25		40	
Beulah					50	
Totals	\$53 17	\$ 9 85	\$53 91	\$10 30	\$23 20	\$51 50

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

We, your Executive Committee, report that owing to the small amount of funds in our hands, we contracted with Brother Robert Harris for five months at \$10 per month to do mission work in the western part of the field and with Brother S. W. Locke to do mission work in the eastern part of the field at the same price for the same time. Also with Brother Benjamin Urtor to do evangelistic work with Brothers Harris and Locke at \$6.25 per week, for which we paid him for six weeks' and two days' time, as per financial report herewith appended.

These brethren will present to your body a full report of their doings while on the field. We herewith make the following recommendations: First, that some steps be taken by this body to have the state board to co-

REPORT ON FINANCE.—CONTINUED.

CHURCHES.	Woman's Missionary Society.	Ministerial Education.	Aged Ministers.	Total from Each Church.	Sent Up During Year.	Value of Church Property.	To Assist New Churches.
Apalachicola	\$	\$ 2 50	\$	\$ 3 50	\$ 4 00	\$ 800	\$
Belleview		1 00		2 05			
Bethlehem				2 50		425	
Bethel				3 15			
Cottdale				4 15		400	
Campbellton				8 35		400	
Chipley				26 02	62 23	800	3 25
Cromanton							
Caryville							
Damascus				3 05			
Ebenezer				1 75		75	
Econfla				4 21			
Ephesus				1 50		300	
Friendship				6 70			
Graceville				1 25			
Greenwood				20 00		500	
Grassy Point				3 50			
Hickory Level				3 20			
Macedonia				1 75			
Marianna				27 50	38 95	2000	
Mount Olive				2 05		50	
Mount Ida				1 00			
Mount Wayfair							
New Salem				1 00	1 00	75	
New Harmony							
New Orange			25	2 25			
Orange Hill				1 35			
Oaky Ridge				2 20		150	
Pilgrim's Rest				3 50			
Piney Grove		50		2 60			
Pleasant Hill				2 25		40	25
Pleasant Ridge				6 40			
St. Andrews				1 00			
Sneads				2 50		800	
Unity				1 25			
Vernon				6 35			
Wewahitchka	1 25		1 00	10 00		750	
White Pond				1 05			
West Bay				3 00			
Bascom				30 70			
Mount Zion				1 50			
Bethany				40			
Beulah				1 50			
Totals	\$ 1 25	\$ 4 00	\$ 1 75	\$ 206 98	\$ 106 18	\$ 7000	\$ 3 50

M. F. BOONE, Chairman,
PAUL LONG,
V. E. COLEMAN,
J. W. GODWIN,

Committee.

operate with your executive board; second, that your newly elected board meet, organize and proceed to devise ways and means for work on the mission field; third, that immediate steps be taken to avert the progress of Mormonism in our mission field; fourth, that a suitable form be gotten up by a committee for blank church letters to our Association, and this body appropriate funds for the printing of same.
M. F. BOONE, Chairman.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

1898	To Cash on hand at last Association.....	\$322 03	
May 31	To Cash, Bethlehem Church.....		1 20
1897	By Amounts ordered paid to—		
Oct. 18	J. C. Porter.....	\$ 34 97	
18	W. N. Chaudoin.....	22 45	
18	Clerk.....	20 00	
Dec. 27	S. W. Locke.....	6 00	
27	J. C. Porter.....	25 00	
1898			
May 4	R. Harris.....	6 00	
June 27	S. W. Locke.....	10 00	
30	S. E. Rogers.....	12 00	
July 1	R. Harris.....	10 00	
Aug. 19	R. Harris.....	10 00	
24	S. W. Locke.....	10 00	
Sept. 15	Benj. Urton.....	20 00	
21	R. Harris.....	25 00	
27	R. Harris.....	10 00	
Oct. 12	Benj. Urton.....	10 00	
15	R. Harris, check.....	6 25	
15	S. W. Locke.....	10 00	
15	Benj. Urton.....	20 00	
15	By Amount on hand.....	8 25	
		57 81	
Oct. 15	To Cash on hand brought down.....	\$323 23	\$323 23
	To Cash sent up by the churches to this Association.....	\$ 57 81	
	Amount on hand.....	209 98	
	Amount on hand.....	\$267 29	
	COLLECTIONS FOR AGED MINISTERS.		
	By Cash paid to Brethren Lawrence and Osborn.....	\$12 45	
	M. F. BOONE, Chairman.		

Oaky Ridge Church was received into the body under a new organization.

The resignation of Bro. W. J. Daniel as Treasurer was tendered, and after hearing the reasons a motion to accept was carried and prayer by Bro. N. L. Connell was offered in his behalf.

Adjourned until 7:30 p.m.

Night Session.

After devotional exercises the reports on Missions and the missionaries were called for.

The report on Missions was read by S. B. Rogers; reports of missionaries by S. W. Locke, R. Harris and Benjamin Urton; and after remarks by the following: S. W. Locke, R. Harris, Benjamin Urton, W. A. Bryan, E. D. Nelson and S. B. Rogers, they were adopted.

REPORT ON MISSIONS.

Missions is a synonym of Baptist, and we are and have ever been proud of the appellation, Missionary Baptist. Since the modern mission move was first launched by the immortal William Cary, who went from his cobbler's bench, shod with the preparation of the gospel of truth in obedience to that command "Go ye into all the world and preach my gospel to every creature,"

fully persuaded that God would be with him unto the end, we have ever been among the foremost workers for God in mission fields. Now, after more than a century of sacrifice and prayer, we find that the hand of God has unlocked the door of every heathen land on earth and our missionaries are allowed to enter unhindered and without molestation. Our Foreign and Home Boards are each untiring in their efforts to take the world for Christ. Our Home Board is just now especially interested in the evangelization of Cuba, the gem of the Antilles, which the hand of God, through the intervention of American arms, has laid at our door and upon our hearts. May God keep them to Christianize priest-ridden, down-trodden Cuba. Our State Board is pushing their work to the extent of their ability. We also find that our Executive Committee has been diligent in its duty and that our Associational mission has not been neglected, but we sadly feel the need of greater efforts in Associational work. Other denominations are rapidly occupying our field and utilizing material which if used in time, may be saved for Baptists.

We recommend, therefore, that this body increase its mission efforts at home, first, by selecting one good man and employing him for his entire time, pushing our work to frontier and destitute fields of our bounds; second, that we consolidate our efforts in this work by asking the State Board to co-operate with our Executive Committee and pass all funds spent in our Association through the hands of our Treasurer.

S. B. ROGERS, Chairman.
S. W. LOCKE,
E. O. WAMBLE,
L. M. STUART,
W. R. GAINER,
W. W. PARKER.

REPORTS OF MISSIONARIES.

I contracted with the committee to commence mission work May 1, 1898, at the rate of \$10 per month, though I had been keeping up the work since last Association. Since then I have given from three to five days a week, traveling 26 or 60 miles, and preaching two to eight sermons during the week. Received by baptism 6, by letter 5, by restoration 4. There are three Sunday schools, three prayer meetings and other religious work accordingly. Received from the Board as salary \$50, from the field \$22, total \$72.

ROBERT HARRIS.

I commenced work on June 24, 1898.

PLACES.	DAYS.	SERMONS.
Vernon.....	8	14
West Bay.....	8	12
Point Washington.....	8	11
Grassy Point.....	8	11
Oaky Ridge and Macedonia.....	7	9
Orange Hill.....	2	2
Beulah.....	3	3
Total.....	44	62

Received by baptism 12, by letter 4.

BENJ. URTON.

I contracted with the Executive Committee to commence work May 15, 1898, and give half my time, five months. Miles traveled 1000, sermons preached 65, prayers 120, baptized 29, received by letter 11, restored 2, delivered four addresses, assisted in ordaining one preacher and with Brethren Urton and Phillips organized one church, collected for missions and turned over to Brother Chaudoin, \$2.45, sold four Bibles and gave away six Bibles and Testaments. Received from the committee \$50 and from the field (Grassy Point) \$20. Respectfully submitted.

S. W. LOCKE.

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

We, your committee, find that our state has provided free public schools in convenient localities for almost every community within our bounds and indeed, within the entire state. We also find that our people are taking advantage of these opportunities and exercising some interest on an educational line, but not to the extent that becometh the times. We heartily commend every interest manifested in this great cause and earnestly recommend that we bestir ourselves for the education of our boys and girls by urging the selection of earnest, Christian teachers and officers, and in seeing that their children are regular attendants in their schools. For the development of our homes and churches we especially recommend that our denominational periodicals be taken and read. We heartily endorse the Stetson University for higher education, of which we are justly proud and feel confident that it has not a peer in the entire South. We recommend that this Association take steps at once towards keeping, at least, one ministerial student in Stetson University. We commend the spirit of our Baptist brethren of S. E. Alabama, in interest manifested in education by the establishment of a denominational institution of learning, designated as the South East Alabama Baptist College Institute, located at Newton, Alabama. 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,

W. C. LOCKEY,
J. W. CARTER,
J. H. TAYLOR,
G. W. ROGERS,
E. D. NELSON.

REPORT ON THE BAPTIST MINISTERS' ASSURANCE ASSOCIATION.

This committee wishes to recommend this organization especially to our ministerial brethren. Its purpose is to benefit bereaved families. Therefore we heartily recommend that our ministers become members of this society.

Respectfully submitted,

R. HARRIS,
S. W. LAND,
J. H. TAYLOR,
BERRY YAWN,
W. K. PARKER.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON WOMAN'S WORK.

Woman's work in missions began about one hundred years ago in a small way and from the information at hand we find that the women of the Southern Baptist Convention are well organized and doing grand and glorious work in home and foreign fields, so that today their annual collections amount to about \$20,000. But in our associational bounds we have about 900 female members who are not so well organized as they should be knowing them to be potent factors in the work of the Lord as teachers and helpers in a general way. We insist that each pastor see that the women of his charge be set to work and allowed to enlarge on their work as helpers.

Respectfully submitted,

J. D. FORRESTER,
J. T. CARTER,
W. H. MCINTOSH.

REPORT ON DOCUMENTS.

On reading the letters, we find that Caryville, Bascom, Beulah and Bethany churches apply for membership in this body. We also discover that the Cottondale church stands alone in its invitation to this association to meet with it in 1899. Besides this we find no documentary matter worthy of mention. There is some mention of weariness and coldness coupled with petitions to us for our interest and prayers. There is also a communication from Oak Ridge church setting forth some internal discord and contention, and the Unity church enters into a detailed statement of some mistakes relative to the character of an ordained person. All such cases we would refer back to the sovereign action of each church concerned.

Respectfully submitted,

J. P. SMITH,
P. L. HORNE,
G. B. YAWN,
S. C. MAUND,
B. F. EVANS,
A. T. POSEY.

RESOLUTIONS OF THANKS.

Resolved, That the thanks of the West Florida Association are hereby tendered to the Baptist church and the citizens of Vernon and community in general, for their generous entertainment during the session of this body.

Resolved, that we hereby tender the thanks of this body to the county officers of Washington County, Florida, who have charge of the court house, for the use of their building during this meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

BENJAMIN URTON.

Report on Sunday Schools read; remarks by Brethren R. Harris, B. Urton and E. Z. Taylor; adopted.

REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

Your Committee on Sunday Schools beg leave to report as follows:

Not having access to the reports of the different churches sent through the letters, we are unable to give the progress of Sunday Schools in the Association. We hope that the marked improvement, as shown at the last meeting of this body, is still being displayed.

We feel the great importance of this kind of church work. When we see the strenuous efforts made by other denominations for the organization of Sunday Schools and for the distribution of sectarian literature, we feel sure that if the Baptists of West Florida are not "up and doing" these other denominations will have laid the foundations for the establishment of their individual peculiar tenets in the minds of our youth. We think that Baptists hold the truth of the Bible and that we should be first in spreading those truths before the youth of the land.

We appeal, this year, as was done last, to all the churches (if there should be any such) without Sunday Schools, to start them as soon as possible. We offer encouragement to all engaged in Sunday School work. Press forward with vigor, brethren, and your zeal will certainly have its reward.

Respectfully submitted,

E. Z. TAYLOR, R. F. THOMPSON,
J. D. SHOUBE, M. R. SHORES,
JOEL SAPP, O. L. PIPPIN.

Resolved that the Executive Committee be elected as recommended by the Committee on Nominations.

M. L. Dekle was elected Treasurer by acclamation. Resolved that S. B. Rogers be re-elected as Treasurer of Ministerial Funds.

Upon motion the Association decided to meet with Cottondale Church at its next session.

By motion the report on Sabbath Schools was made the special order for the first business of the morning session. Adjourned to meet at 9 a. m. in the court house.

Morning Session.

At 9 a.m. the body met. Devotional exercises conducted by the Moderator.

The Committee on Sunday Schools asked for time.

Resolved that the Clerk be paid \$20 for his services.

Resolved that the Committee on Form of Church Letters be re-elected and J. D. Forrester be added to the committee. Resolved that \$23 be expended for minutes.

The Committee on Divine Services announced that Rev. S. L. Loudermilk would preach at the stand at 11 a.m.; Subject, "The Command," Mark 16 : 15—"Go ye into all the world." Rev. S. B. Rogers to preach in the court house—I Cor. 3 : 9, "Though he was rich," etc.

The collections for missions were \$20.26. After prayer by Bro. Lawrence, and singing "God be with you till we meet again," the parting hand was given, having enjoyed a harmonious and prosperous session.

The body adjourned to meet with Cottondale at its next session.

W. A. BRYAN, Moderator.
W. M. FARRIOR, Clerk.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	CLERKS.	POST OFFICES.	Baptized.	Received by Letter.	Restored.	Dismissed by Letter.	Erased.	Excluded.	Died.	Male Members.	Female Members.	Total Membership.	MESSENGERS.
Apathachicola	W. A. Bryan	J. T. Davis	Apathachicola	5	4	1	4	8	25	381	71	352	By Letter.	
Bethlehem	W. A. Bryan	J. A. Egan	Kynessville	10	10	12	8	10	11	111	111	222	J. D. Rawls, S. W. Land, S. W. Land, Jr.	
Belleview	W. H. McIntosh	J. M. Heald	Revalichka	1	10	12	8	10	11	111	111	222	E. J. Taylor, J. G. Stewart.	
Bascom	J. J. White	H. C. Noel	Bascom	3	6	1	1	1	1	16	16	32	W. A. Hardy.	
Bethany	J. W. Johnson	W. Y. Tyler	Bonilla	2	2	1	1	1	1	12	12	24	W. J. Godwin, C. A. Boone.	
Beulah	W. A. Bryan	A. M. Pate	Cottondale	2	2	1	1	1	1	12	12	24	W. B. O'Connor, W. Y. Tyler.	
Cottondale	W. A. Bryan	W. F. Graves	Cottondale	2	2	1	1	1	1	12	12	24	6 A. M. Wilcox, A. M. Pate.	
Campbellton	B. F. Urton	R. A. Reardon	Chapley	2	2	1	1	1	1	12	12	24	W. A. Bryan.	
Chapley	S. B. Rogers	V. E. Coleman	Chapley	2	2	1	1	1	1	12	12	24	W. A. Bryan.	
Garyville	J. D. Courtney	J. E. Corley	Garyville	2	2	1	1	1	1	12	12	24	W. A. Bryan.	
Damascus	J. E. Nixon	J. A. M. Stimmans	Alpine	2	2	1	1	1	1	12	12	24	W. A. Bryan.	
Beaneer	J. E. Nixon	J. A. M. Stimmans	Alpine	2	2	1	1	1	1	12	12	24	W. A. Bryan.	
Kentonia	J. E. Nixon	J. A. M. Stimmans	Alpine	2	2	1	1	1	1	12	12	24	W. A. Bryan.	
Kripessus	N. P. Gilmore	H. L. Sapp	Campbellton	5	5	8	5	1	1	24	24	48	W. A. Bryan.	
Kirtlandship	D. E. Burdeshaw	J. M. Stevens	Bolton	6	6	2	2	1	1	26	26	52	L. B. Gainer, E. B. Marshburn, W. B. Gainer.	
Greenwood	W. H. McIntosh	N. F. Boone	Greenwood	2	2	2	2	1	1	17	17	34	B. Gainer, J. O. Christman.	
Greenwood	W. H. McIntosh	N. F. Boone	Greenwood	2	2	2	2	1	1	17	17	34	B. Gainer, J. O. Christman.	
Grassy Point	S. W. Lack	J. H. Anderson	Grassy Point	2	2	2	2	1	1	16	16	32	W. A. Bryan.	
Hickory Level	S. W. Lack	J. H. Anderson	Grassy Point	2	2	2	2	1	1	16	16	32	W. A. Bryan.	
Marianna	S. B. Rogers	J. C. Davis	Marianna	17	17	2	2	1	1	44	44	88	W. A. Bryan.	

SAMPSON LIBRARY
JOHN B. STETSON UNIVERSITY
DeLAND * FLORIDA

SUNDAY SCHOOL STATISTICS.

CHURCHES.	SUPT.	POST OFFICE.	Contributed to Churches.	Officers and Teachers.	Number of Pupils.	Contributed for Expenses.	Contributed for Missions.
Apalachicola	P. G. Harding	Apalachicola	\$ 8	38	\$ 20	\$ 2	00
Bellevue	E. Z. Taylor	Wewahitchka	6	35	4	40	2
Bethel	A. J. Holland	Graceville	6	60	4	40	2
Cottondale	T. L. Massey	Cottondale	6	35	7	50	
Chipley	J. D. Forester	Chipley	10	75	20	00	12
Campbellton	C. R. Jones	Campbellton	5	85	5	50	
Friendship	John M. Stevens	Bolton	6	45			3
Graceville	G. B. Yawn	Graceville	9	70			
Greenwood	M. F. Boone	Greenwood	6	28	2	00	1
Hickory Level	T. J. Porter	Marianna	4	40	2	77	
Marianna	M. L. Dekle	Marianna	4	75	6	49	18
Mount Ida	Jesse Rogers	Wausau	4	18	1	50	
Mount Olive	Miss Lula Maund	Bonifay	4	34			
Pilgrim's Rest	R. D. Chulte	Campbellton	8	38			
Pleasant Hill	E. Singleton	Nixon	5	37	2	25	
St. Andrews	V. D. Green	St. Andrews	8	80	25	79	1
Sneads	T. N. Wilson	Sneads	6	40	4	75	5
Wewahitchka	N. L. Connell	Wewahitchka	8	86	11	00	
West Bay	W. L. Hutchinson	West Bay	6	35	6	00	
Total			\$4 75	121	778	\$114 75	\$67 44

* Last year's report.

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 12: 28; Matt. 18: 17; 18: 16; 1 Tim. 1: 2, 5; Exod. 20: 1, 3; John 1: 1, 4; 5: 23; 10: 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. 3: 16, 17; 2 Peter 1: 21; 2 Sam. 23: 2; Rev. 22: 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. 1: 5, 6; Ps. 14: 1, 3; Rom. 5: 12; John 6: 44; 1 Cor. 15: 20; Job 14: 5-7, Eph. 2: 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 15: 16, 17; Isa. 11: 8, 9; Eph. 1: 4, 11; Acts 13: 48; 2 Thes. 2: 13; 1 Peter 1: 2; Rom. 8: 29, 30; Rom. 9: 11, 13, 23; 11: 4, 7; 2 Tim. 2: 9.
5. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God only by the righteousness of Christ imputed to them. Rom. 3: 21, 5, 50. Ps. 14. John 10: 9, 15. Rom. 5: 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 10: 30, 6: 29. Phil. 1: 6. 1 Peter 1: 3-9. Heb. 6: 16-20. John 17: 2, 3, 2 Tim. 1: 9, 10. Tit. 4: 4, 7. Eph. 2: 4, 5. Rom. 8: 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. 2: 10. James 2: 13, 3: 13. 1 Peter 2: 3-5. Matt. 5: 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 12: 24-27. 2 Cor. 5: 10. 1 Cor. 15: 12-29. Acts 17: 31. Matt. 25: 46. John 5: 20-29. 2 Thes. 1: 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. 6.

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 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. 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 reproved 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.

