

MINUTES.

FIRST DAY.

OCTOBER 18, 1879.

The Introductory sermon was preached by Elder W. F. Norris, of the Manatee Association, from Mark, vii: 37: "He hath done all things well."

After refreshments, the Association was called to order by the Moderator, Elder S. Walden, and after singing and prayer, letters from the churches were handed in and read.

Petitionary letters were called for, when letters from the following named churches were presented by their delegates, and after the letters were read, the churches were received as members of this body, and the hand of fellowship was given to their delegates by the Moderator, to-wit: Pine Grove church, in Polk county, and Pleasant Hill and Emens churches in Hernando county.

The Association then proceeded to the election of Moderator and Clerk, which resulted in the re-election of Elder S. Walden, Moderator, and the re-election of Elder J. M. Hayman, Clerk.

The Moderator appointed the following committees, to-wit:

On Preaching—Brethren J. R. McDonald, R. M. Wilson, and T. W. Wilder, with the delegates from this church.

On Letters and Documents—T. H. Jaudon, J. M. Duffie and E. G. Wilder.

On Publications—J. R. Tatum, C. T. Simmons and A. Newbern.

On Finance—W. S. Bugg, R. M. Wilson and J. R. Stewart.

On Sabbath-schools—W. R. Varn, E. G. Wilder and J. M. Hayman.

On Temperance—T. H. Jaudon, J. R. Tatum and J. M. Duffie.

On Deceased ministers and Deacons—J. R. Tatum, R. M. Wilson and T. H. Jaudon.

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On motion, brother A. Newbern was recognized as a delegate from this church (Turkey Creek), instead of Elder S. Walden, the Moderator. Also, that brother J. M. Duffie be recognized as delegate from the church at Fort Meade, and that brother J. R. Stewart be recognized as delegate from Beulah church, and that brother D. T. Moore and Elder J. R. Tatum be recognized as delegates from Antioch church, and that brother O. J. Frier be recognized as delegate from Bethel church, instead of the absent delegate.

The Association then adjourned, after singing and prayer, till 9 o'clock Monday morning.

NOTE.—Elder J. W. Hendry, of the Manatee Association, preached at 2 o'clock P.M. from St. John iii: 16, "For God so loved the world," etc. Also, Elder A. Wilson, of the Manatee Association, preached at night.

SABBATH EXERCISES.

Prayer meeting was commenced at 9:30 A.M., and at the hour of 11, according to previous arrangement, Elder W. F. Nigle preached on the subject of Missions. At the close of the exercises a collection was taken up for that purpose, amounting to \$18.30.

After refreshments, Elder Dennis Spencer, of Crescent City, Putnam county, Fla., preached, and Elder J. W. Hendry preached at night, with apparently good effect.

The congregations were large, numbering between eight and nine hundred persons, and good behavior was maintained, during the preaching hours especially, and many persons requested prayers for themselves, and seemed to be very much wrought upon.

SECOND DAY.

MONDAY, 9 o'clock A.M.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment, and after singing, prayer was made by Elder J. J. Robertson, after which the roll was called and absentees marked.

The minutes of Saturday were read, corrected and approved

Correspondents were called for, when Elders J. W. Hen-

ry, W. F. Norris, J. J. Robertson and A. Wilson, and brethren T. L. Thigpen and Jona Yates, all of the Manatee Association, presented themselves as corresponding messengers and were received as such, and the hand of fellowship was given them by the Moderator.

Elders Dennis Spencer, of Crescent City, Putnam county, Florida, and R. T. Caddin, of Midway Association, were received as visitors.

Report of Committee on Publications was received, to-wit:

Report of Committee on Publications.

The Committee on Publications beg leave to report that we recommend the Holy Bible, the book of books, to be read carefully, prayerfully and with a design to be instructed thereby, and in preference to all other books. We further recommend the *Baptist*, published at Memphis, Tenn.; *THE CHRISTIAN INDEX*, published at Atlanta, Ga., and *Ford's Christian Repository*, published at St. Louis, Mo. We advise that all light literature, such as novels, romances, plays, etc., be banished from the houses of the brethren of the Association as pernicious to the morals and spiritual welfare of themselves and their children.

Respectfully submitted.

J. R. TATUM, Chairman.

Report of Committee on Temperance.

The Committee on Temperance respectfully report: That while it is the duty of every child of God to be temperate in all things, it is especially a duty of paramount importance to him to abstain, both at home and abroad, from the use of intoxicating liquors in every form; for when we consider the sad evil resulting from the use of such beverages, as being destructive of the Christian's and the world's best and highest interest, it must suggest itself to every candid mind that the condemnation of this known evil is the least that we can do.

We recommend that the earnest prayers to God by this body be made for the effectual pulling down of this stronghold of Satan.

Respectfully solicited.

T. H. JAUDON, Chairman.

Report of Committee on Sabbath Schools.

Your Committee on Sabbath-schools respectfully report: That from the statements in the letters from the churches sent up to this Association, and from other sources of information, it appears that Sabbath-schools are too much neglected by our churches. We are assured that a well conducted Sabbath-school in every church and every community is a blessing to all who will avail themselves of its advantages, especially the young; but if those of riper years, particularly members of the churches, would attend Sabbath-schools as learners, it would prove to them a very efficient means of grace, and would greatly encourage the young in their attendance and studies. We advise the members of our churches to organize and maintain Sabbath-schools in every church, and for all who can to attend the Sabbath-school for the purpose of learning.

Respectfully submitted,

W. R. VARN, Chairman.

Report of Committee on Letters and Documents.

The Committee on Letters and Documents report as follows, to-wit: We have examined the letters from the churches to this Association, and find that the good Lord has blessed the churches with peace and harmony, for which we thank God.

We find in all the letters requests for the prayers of this body for their spiritual prosperity, and in one letter a request for special prayers for our afflicted brother, Fillmore Hull, of Shiloh church. We also find a request from Bethel church for the next Ministers' Convention to be held with that church, and as there is no request sent up for the next Association, would advise that the next meeting of this body be held with Bethel church. We find also a request from Spring Hill church for the ordination of brother R. N. Pylant, which we recommend to be done as soon as practicable. We further advise the churches for the future to be more careful in preparing their letters to the Association. We find some with no post-office address, and others not stating amount of contributions for Associational purposes.

Respectfully submitted, T. H. JAUDON, Chairman.

The following resolution was offered by brother J. R. McDonald, and unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That we, the South Florida Baptist Association, now in session, do most earnestly and affectionately petition the Manatee Association to reunite with us, as we believe the cause of our blessed Redeemer will be advanced thereby.

Report of Finance Committee.

We, the Committee on Finance, beg leave to report that we have received from the churches, sent up for Associational purposes, the sum of thirty-five dollars. Respectfully submitted,

W. S. BUGG, Chairman.

The following resolution was offered by Elder J. R. Tatum, and adopted:

Resolved, That we, in compliance with the many requests for prayer, do recommend that the churches of this Association organize and sustain a prayer-meeting in each church, and that prayers be made especially for God to bless this Association, and our dear, afflicted brother, Fillmore Hull, of Shiloh church.

The following resolution was offered by brother W. J. Taylor, and adopted:

Resolved, That this Association recommend the writing of circular letters, and that a brother be appointed at each session of this body for that purpose, which letter should be read at the next meeting of the Association, and that the Association advise the subjects to be written upon, but not confine the brother appointed to write to any particular subject.

On motion, the Moderator appointed Elder J. M. Hayman to write a circular letter, to be read and published at our next Association, upon one of the three following subjects, to-wit: Missions, Temperance and Sabbath-schools. The Association then took recess for the purpose of attending

the preaching of Elder W. F. Norris, who preached from Exodus. xxxiii: 14, "My presence shall go with thee, and I will give thee rest."

After refreshments, the Association resumed business, when the Committee on Deceased Ministers and Deacons presented their report, which was read and adopted, to-wit:

Report of Committee on Deceased Ministers and Deacons.

We, the Committee on Deceased Ministers and Deacons, beg leave to report, that since our last Association, two of our ministering brethren have been taken from us by death, to-wit: Elder Ryan Frier, and Elder James Milton; therefore,

Resolved, That we meekly submit to the will of God, who doeth all things well; that we sympathize with their bereaved relations: that this Association has sustained great loss in their deaths, and that a blank page in our Minutes be suitably inscribed to their memory, and that copies of the same be sent to their families.

The Committee on Preaching reported that Elder W. F. Nigels preach the Introductory Sermon at our next Association, and Elder L. J. Simmons preach on Missions at 11 o'clock A. M. on Sunday. The Association then proceeded to the election of Treasurer, which resulted in the election of brother T. W. Wilder.

On motion, the Moderator appointed a committee of three to make arrangements for the next meeting of this Association, and report to the Clerk in time for it to be published in this Minute—when the following named brethren were appointed, to-wit: E. G. Wilder, R. M. Wilson and T. W. Wilder.

Whereas it appears to this Association that Antioch church, a member of this body, has received into her fellowship one John A. Gandy, who is charged with the crime of adultery and many other things; therefore,

Resolved, That we advise Antioch church to set herself in order by disciplining her disorderly members at once.

On motion for a committee to meet with and advise Antioch church, the Moderator appointed the following named brethren as such committee, to-wit: E. G. Wilder, R. M. Wilson, W. M. Groves, J. R. McDonald and J. M. Hayman.

On motion, ordered that the minutes of the Ministers' Convention be published with the minutes of this Association.

The Treasurer's report received and adopted, as follows, to-wit:

SACRED TO THE MEMORY

OF

ELDER RYAN FRIER,

Who, for many years, was an able, efficient
Minister of the Gospel.

SACRED TO THE MEMORY

OF

ELDER JAMES MILTON,

Who died in the faith, and assured of a
blessed immortality.

MINUTES

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T. W. Wilder, Treasurer, in account with South Florida Association.	
To Balance in hand.....	\$ 1 50
To amount received from Finance Committee.....	35 00
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	\$36 50
To amount on hand for Missions.....	\$ 5 70
To amount received by this Association for Missions.....	18 30
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	\$24 00

Respectfully submitted,

T. W. WILDER, Treasurer.

On motion, ordered, that the Treasurer pay to Elder Dennis Spencer the sum of \$5.00 out of the money for missions, and, also, pay to Elder J. R. Tatum \$5.00 of it, and send \$5.00 to the Domestic Mission Board at Marion, Ala.; and the balance of the money for missions, in his hands, pay over to Elder J. M. Hayman, on amount due him from this body as a missionary.

Appointed the following named brethren as correspondents to the Manatee Association, to-wit: Elders T. H. Jaudon, S. Walden and brother W. K. Franklin.

Ordered, that the Clerk have three hundred copies of these Minutes printed; and that he be allowed \$10.00 for his services as Clerk; and that he draw on the Treasurer for an amount sufficient to defray the expense of getting the Minutes printed and distributed.

On motion, the Moderator returned the thanks of this Association to the church at Turkey Creek and citizens of the community for their kindness to us during this meeting.

The minutes were then read and approved.

Adjourned, after singing and prayer, to meet with the Bethel church, in the northern portion of Polk county, on Saturday before the third Sunday in October, A. D. 1880.

S. WALDEN, Moderator.

J. M. HAYMAN, Clerk.

The following three questions were deferred for want of time:

1. Can any number of members be legal without the sanction of the church in official capacity?
2. Should our churches extend the right hand of fellowship to persons received for baptism?
3. Are we authorized by the Scriptures to have more than one order of ministers?

Brother D. Spencer reached the point of meeting Saturday afternoon, and was received from Putnam county, Fla., as a missionary, and preached to a very large and attentive congregation on the following Sabbath, at 10 o'clock A.M., from Matt., xii:31., followed by brother A. Wilson. We believe much good was done.

Evening service by brother J. M. Hayman, from Rev., iii:20, followed by brother Pylant.

The meeting then adjourned to meet on the last fifth Sabbath preceding the 1st of October, A.D., 1880, place of meeting to be fixed by the Association. Prayer by brother Simmons.

Elder J. R. TATUM, Secretary.

Elder SILVESTER WALDEN, President.