

MINUTES

— OF THE —

Twenty-First Annual Session

— OF THE —

South Florida Association,

HELD WITH THE

PLANT CITY BAPTIST CHURCH,

OCTOBER 8, 9 AND 10, 1887.

WITNESS PUBLISHING ASSOCIATION,
DE LAND, FLORIDA.
1887.

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REV. L. B. PLUMER, EDITOR AND M'G'R.

Why?

Listen and we will try to tell you. This is an age of progress. The world moves. Great events are transpiring around you. Great discoveries are being made. Before the nations and investigations of the human mind, Nature is yielding up her secrets, week by day the domain of thought is being extended, until the noblest of human action is broadened. A thinking, a searching, a comparing age.

In the religious world the activity is not less marked. A waking soul, increasing faith, "Gentle revivals" increased numbers, "The world for Christ" is the cry of the century, and everywhere—in all the lands, the heralds of the 19th century are reflecting their lessons, giving promise of the day when the Kingdom of this world shall become Kingdoms of our Lord and Saviour.

Do you care to share in this? Can you afford to remain in ignorance of it all? Can you afford to shut out from your life the joy and satisfaction that come from a knowledge of what is transpiring in the world around you? No. You must be up to date, you must be up to date, you must be up to date, you must be up to date. You must keep step with the march of events, and, in order to accomplish this end.

A NEWSPAPER IS INDISPENSABLE

That this is the case of every Christian should be a denominational paper, will not admit of dispute. It should be your home, State paper, is equally true. It is added to the news from the outside world, it tells you what no other paper can tell in such complete and satisfactory manner—what your neighbors, your friends, your brethren are doing. All this is what THE WITNESS does for you, and at a cost to you of 4 CTS. PER WEEK. Can you afford to neglect it? Can you afford to neglect it? Can you afford to neglect it?

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DE LAND, FLA.

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ORDER OF BUSINESS.

ADOPTED FOR THE TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL SESSION OF THE
S. F. ASSOCIATION.

1. Introductory.
2. Association called to order.
3. Reading church letters and enrolling names of messengers.
4. Electing officers, Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer.
5. Call for petitionary letters.
6. Call for letters of correspondents.
7. Appointment of committees.
8. Inviting visiting members to seats.
9. Reports of committees.
10. Miscellaneous business.
11. Call for messengers to other Associations and State conventions.
12. Adjournment.

MINSTERS OF S. F. ASSOCIATION AND THEIR POST OFFICES.

C. S. Reynolds,	-	-	-	Clearwater.
W. W. Bostick,	-	-	-	Kathleen.
W. B. Dye,	-	-	-	Bartow.
Elias Turner,	-	-	-	Lakeland.
J. M. Hayman,	-	-	-	Bartow.
W. M. Simons,	-	-	-	Tampa.
A. F. Randall,	-	-	-	Tampa.
Geo. Roby,	-	-	-	Tampa.
A. A. Keith,	-	-	-	Lakeland.
J. G. McCaskey,	-	-	-	Lakeland.
L. J. Simmons,	-	-	-	Plant City.
S. Walden,	-	-	-	Plant City.
T. H. Jaudon,	-	-	-	Sparkman.
W. F. Neigles,	-	-	-	Duneden.
P. S. Crosier,	-	-	-	Winter Haven.
Bro. — Wimberly,	-	-	-	Fort Meade.

EXECUTIVE BOARD AND THEIR POST OFFICE.

(AS ELECTED AT THIS ASSOCIATION.)

Ben. F. Blount,	Bartow.
W. S. Knight,	Plant City.
O. J. Frier,	Lakeland.
J. R. McDonald,	Plant City.
E. G. Wilder,	Kathleen.

MODERATOR, CLERK AND TREASURER OF THIS ASSOCIATION AND THEIR POST OFFICE ADDRESS.

W. W. Bostick, Moderator,	Kathleen,
E. G. Wilder, Clerk,	Kathleen,
C. L. Wilder, Treasurer,	Plant City.

MINUTES

Of the Twenty-First Annual Session of the South Florida
Association held with the Plant City Baptist
Church Oct. 8th, 9th and 10th, 1887.

Introductory Sermon—Preached by Elder J. M. Hayman, from
chapter 1st and 22d verse: "Be ye doers of the word and not
hearers only." After which an intermission of one hour and a
half was taken for refreshments.

2 P. M.

The messengers assembled in the house, when W. W. Bostick,
former Moderator, called the meeting to order, and after sing-
ing a hymn, Bro. S. Walden led in prayer.

Letters from the different churches were called for, when
the following were handed in by their messengers, to-wit:

Messengers.

Bartow—J. M. Hayman, J. C. Blount.
Bethel—W. W. Bostick, S. J. Hancock.
Gapway—J. J. Taylor and J. J. Taylor, Jr.
Homeland—Peter F. Shupe and E. M. Hayman.
Lakeland—A. J. Mills, C. S. McCrary.
Mt. Olive—S. L. Bryant, J. A. Voyles.
Hopewell—W. M. McDonald, W. L. Frierson.
Seffner—Wm. O'Brien and Mary J. Winpiger (by letter and
contribution only).

Tampa—J. Y. Durst, Mrs. Emily Craft, (by letter and contribution only).

Thonotosassa—T. H. Jaudon, T. G. Anderson.

Turkey Creek—L. J. Simmons and S. Walden.

Winter Haven—P. S. Crosier and Robt. Jameson, (by letter and contribution only).

After the enrollment of the above names the Association proceeded to permanent organization by electing W.W. Bostick Moderator, E. G. Wilder Clerk, and C. L. Wilder Treasurer.

The Moderator then called for petitionary letters, when one was received from May's Chapel, and being found orthodox, on motion, was received unanimously into the South Florida Baptist Association and the right hand of fellowship extended to her messenger, James Weeks.

Visiting brethren invited to seats, when Elder G.W. Bearden, of Richland Church, Pasco County, Fla., and Bro. J.D. Groves, of Baltimore, Md., accepted.

Preaching committee report that Elder Jaudon preach to-night and Elder Hayman to-morrow at 11 a. m.

Correspondence called for. None.

The regular order of business adopted as appended.

Regular order of business suspended by move and seconded for Bro. J. D. Groves, of Baltimore, Md., to address the body in behalf of female messengers to said body, which was done with some force, and we trust it will have a good effect on the entire Association.

Appointment of Committees.

Letters and Documents—T. H. Jaudon, B. F. Shupe, and C. S. McCrary.

Sunday Schools—J. M. Hayman, T. G. Anderson.

Deceased Ministers and Deacons—W. L. Frierson, T. A. Bivens, J. B. Weeks.

Temperance—S. Walden, J. J. Taylor, P. F. Shupe.

Finance—E.W. Norwood, S. J. Hancock and Bro. Voyles.

Missions—T. H. Jaudon, L. J. Simmons, B. F. Freer.

On C. Letters—T. H. Jaudon, P. F. Shupe, C. S. McCrary.

Preaching Committees report for Saturday 7 p. m. preach-

ing by Bro. Jaudon, and Sunday 11 a. m. preaching by Bro. J. M. Hayman. Adjourned until Monday morning, 9 a. m.

Massmeeting Sunday 2:30, with seeming good results, after which a collection was taken; amount received \$6.05.

The cause of Ybor City was presented by W. W. Bostick. Amount received in cash and pledges on finishing chapel \$14.00.

MONDAY, 9 A. M.

W. W. Bostick, Moderator, in the chair. Prayer by Bro. C. S. McCrary. At once proceeded to business.

Report on Sabbath Schools.

Your committee on Sunday Schools have to report that we find, from the letters to this Association and other sources, that there are at least fourteen Sunday Schools connected with the churches of this Association.

No. of persons baptized into the churches from those schools the past year,	35
No. of officers and teachers	73
No. of pupils enrolled	507
Average attendance	346
Total amount of money raised for Sunday School work	\$230.50

We do not find anything about Sunday Schools in some of the letters, and we urgently request the churches to make report of all their Sunday School work to the next Association, and would respectfully insist on every church instituting a Sunday School that has none.

Respectfully submitted,

J. M. HAYMAN, Chairman.

Report of Finance Committee.

We have received from the several churches:

For Associational purposes, printing minutes, &c	\$23 06
For Missions—Sunday's collection	6 05
Thonotosassa—for foreign missions	1 00

All of which is respectfully submitted.

E. W. NORWOOD, Chairman.

The claims of DeLand University were presented by Elder W.W. Bostick, and after some discussion, an amount was raised for said University of \$20.00.

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Report on Temperance.

We believe that the great Temperance question that is now agitating the Christian world is the cause of God and humanity. We would therefore urge our ministers to preach against intemperance, and proclaim temperance on the house-tops, and upon the hills and mountains, and cry aloud, and spare not until the great curse to mankind is driven from our land. We also recommend our brethren to pray and work for prohibition and use every available moral power to put down this great national sin. We would encourage also our W. C. T. U. in their noble work, and ask our brethren to aid them and cooperate with them in order to move forward the great temperance cause. We would advise our sisters to observe propriety strictly in every step they make, and in due time we shall reap if we faint not. We are sorry to learn that some of our brethren voted for the sale of whiskey in our midst, and while we recognize the right of all men to vote as they please, yet we, as children of God, think it a great sacrifice of truth to be in league with the works of darkness. We would therefore advise the churches to throw around them the mantle of charity, and by this means restore such in love. While we hold that our government is responsible for the shame and disgrace of legalizing such a baneful practice we would advise our brethren to use no violent means to avert this great evil, but let our moderation and correctness be known of all men.

S. WALDEN, Chairman.

Report on Letters and Documents.

We have examined the letters and find quite a number report revivals of religion in their midst during this Associational year, for which we give thanks to our heavenly Father. We notice that contributions for Associational, State, Home and Foreign missions have decreased considerably. We would urge that a more liberal contribution be sent up by the churches. We find also that Turkey Creek church has furnished her reasons to the chairman of the committee, appointed at the last session of this Association, for receiving Elder R.N. Pylant into her fellowship.

Also, we find a petition from Bethel church, asking that the next Association convene at that place, and we recommend that her request be granted. Respectfully submitted,

T. H. JAUDON, Chairman.

Resolved, That the next session of the Association be held with the Bethel Baptist Church, in Polk County, Florida, commencing on Friday before the second Sunday in October, 1888.

Closing prayer by Elder W. W. Bostick.

Report on Missions.

Your committee on missions report that the mission field in the bounds of our Association is large and increasing, and with our limited means we have done what we could to have the gospel preached in our destitute bounds. We think the plan adopted by our executive board a good one, that each minister in the bounds of the Association extend his labors just as far and wide as his ability and circumstances will allow, so that the poor may have the gospel preached unto them. We hope the church members will respond liberally to the cause of Missions in our bounds, also for State and Foreign Missions, and lay aside as the Lord has prospered them, that we may have the means ever ready to meet the expenses and supply the necessities of our way worn missionaries; remembering that our blessed Redeemer, though rich, yet became poor for our sakes, that through his poverty we might become rich.

Respectfully,

T. H. JAUDON, Chairman.

Report on Deceased Ministers and Deacons.

Your committee find by examination of church letters that not one minister has died during this Associational year, but that one deacon, to-wit, Bro. Timothy Gibson, of Mays chapel. Therefore, be it

Resolved, That this Association tender to our bereaved sister our heartfelt sympathy in her sad bereavement, and that we devote one page in our minutes to his memory, with a suitable inscription and his age.

WM. L. FRIERSON, Chairman.

Resolutions of Bro. E. G. Wilder:

Resolved, That the members of Antioch church, after their first conference, and after adopting the articles of the Baptist faith as held by the churches of this Association, and at their request, and by the vote of this Association, are hereby fully and cordially restored to the fellowship of the South Florida Association.

Resolved, That this body tender their thanks to the members and friends of the Plant City Baptist Church for their kind hospitality to us during our stay in their midst.

Resolved, That Article 2 in the Constitution of South Florida Baptist Association be changed so as to read as follows: "The Association shall be composed of male members chosen by the respective churches in its union, not to exceed two members from each church, who shall be duly authorized by letter to represent the churches delegating them."

Dear Brothers and Sisters:—Let us study this subject from a Bible standpoint, and especially, brethren, let us not discourage those sisters who are such ornaments to our churches.

CLERK.

Report of Executive Committee.

We have labored this year under financial embarrassment which forbade our putting a missionary into the field the entire time. However, we feel that some good has been accomplished in the most destitute places in our Association through the earnest labors of J. M. Hayman, W. W. Bostick, L. S. Simmons, T. H. Jaudon, J. G. McCaskey and A. A. Keith, whose time not being entirely filled, acted on our request and extended their labors to the most needy in our destitution, and have reported their work, which has been satisfactory to your Board. The above named brethren have worked efficiently at the following places, to-wit: Auburndale, Bloomingdale, Peru, Keyville, Madulla, Eagle Lake, and on headwaters of Withlacoochee river, &c. At those places we are satisfied that much good may yet be accomplished for the Master. Your committee has given orders on the treasurer of the S. F. Association for the above mentioned services as follows: A. A. Keith, \$20.00; W. W. Bostick, \$10.00; L. J. Simmons, \$10.00; T. H. Jaudon,

\$10.00; J. M. Hayman, \$10.00; J. G. McCaskey, \$4.00. Total amount paid out for mission work, \$65.00. Your executive committee having acted this year without any special advice from your body feel heavily the responsibility resting on us. We, therefore, think it advisable that in the future the Association advise or recommend to her Executive Board what steps may be best to occupy entirely the mission field.

The above mentioned orders have all been cashed.

Respectfully,

B. F. BLOUNT,
W. S. KNIGHT,
O. J. FRIER,
J. R. McDONALD,
E. G. WILDER,
Executive Board.

Moved and carried that the Constitution be read, also the Decorum of the Association, which was done by the Clerk, while the body was duly assembled.

Resolution by Elder Jaudon to amend Article second in the Constitution of the S. F. Association, at the next regular session of the body.

Messengers to other Associations.

To Hernando Association, J. M. Duffy, W. W. Bostick.

To Manatee Association, L. J. Simmons.

To Baptist State Convention, S. Walden, C. L. Wilder, L. J. Simmons, W. W. Bostick, T. W. Wilder, and E. G. Wilder.

The committee appointed at the Association, previous to adjust a matter of dispute between Homeland Church and Turkey Creek church being absent, no report was made, and there being no charges in the hands of the Association, the matter should have remained in the hands of the committee until they could have reported. But one or two motions and two resolutions by individuals were offered to get the Association to

take some action in the matter, when the Moderator stated that such motions and resolutions were, and others of like character would be, ruled out of order for the following reasons, to-wit: 1st. The Association is composed of churches and not individuals. Only a church is competent to prefer a charge against a church. 2d. No matter of dispute, nor weight, rumor, &c., unworthy the notice of a church, should by any individual be permitted to disturb the peace nor take up the time of the Association. 3d. If otherwise, a door to almost endless commotion and trouble is opened.

Treasurer's Report.

PLANT CITY, Oct. 8th, 1887.

	CR.	DR.
Amt. in the treasury from last Association and now in hand,		\$ 70 02
Received from all the churches, union meetings, &c., during this Associational year up to date		138 51
Oct. 10th, 1887. Received from all the churches up to date, including Sabbath collection,		30 11
Received of Elder S. Walden, Chairman of the Book fund Ex. Committee		11 00
Total amount,		\$249 64
Credit by amt. paid to Executive Board and otherwise,	\$120 00	
Credit by amt. due Foreign Mission Bd,	1 00	
Total amount,	\$121 00	\$249 60
Amount to balance,		\$128 64
Received from Clearwater Church since adjournment of Association, for Associational purposes,		\$5 25

SUNDAY SCHOOL RECORD.

AND LIST OF CHURCH PROPERTY BELONGING TO S. F. ASSOCIATION.

CHURCHES	Officers, &c.	Pupils	Value of Church Property.	Money paid for School Work
Bartow*			\$6,000 00	\$37 92
Bethel	8	75	1,200 00	15 00
Clearwater				
Gapway				
Homeland	4	18	1,200 00	8 15
Hopewell			350 00	
Mt. Olive			290 00	
Lakeland	6	50	750 00	20 74
Mays Chapel	3	25	250 00	19 60
Seffner*				
Tampa	16	65		70 00
Turkey Creek			300 00	
Thonotassassa	4	50	500 00	74 00
Shiloh*				
Winter Haven	5	21	700 00	
Total	46	304	\$11,540 00	245 41

*No report.

MONEY SENT UP FOR PRINTING MINUTES AND HOME CHURCH EXPENSES FOR THIS ASSOCIATION YEAR.

	For printing minutes	Home Church Expenses
Bartow	\$3 05	
Bethel	2 00	\$100 00
Clearwater	"	"
Gapway	1 50	"
Homeland	1 25	69 00
Hopewell	2 35	245 85
Mt. Olive	1 00	36 95
Lakeland	1 70	15 10
Mays Chapel	1 25	75 00
Seffner	1 40	80 00
Tampa	"	473 10
Turkey Creek	1 91	"
Thonotassassa	1 60	"
Shiloh	3 05	300 00
Winter Haven	1 00	149 28

NOTE.—Please take more pains in filling out the letters to the Association otherwise a statistical table can never be correctly made out.

Respectfully, CLERK.

CHURCHES AND OFFICERS.

CHURCHES	PASTORS.	CLERKS.	POST OFFICES
Bartow.....	W. B. Dye.....	B. F. Blount.....	Bartow.....
Bethel.....	W. W. Bostick.....	A. A. Lewis.....	Kathleen.....
Clearwater.....	C. S. Reynolds.....	W. J. Taylor.....	Clearwater*.....
Gapway.....	Elias Turner.....	J. L. McClelland.....	Lakeland.....
Hopewell.....	T. H. Jaudon.....	J. R. McDonald.....	Plant City.....
Mt. Olive.....	A. A. Keith.....	Jno. Harris.....	Blanche.....
Homeland.....	J. M. Hayman.....	W. T. Denham.....	Homeland.....
Lakeland.....	J. G. McCaskey.....	O. J. Frier.....	Lakeland.....
Mango.....	T. H. Jaudon.....	J. F. Rodgers.....	Mango*.....
Seffner.....	A. A. Keith.....	Mrs. N. Harvey.....	Seffner.....
Winter Haven.....	P. S. Crosier.....	R. B. Jameson.....	Winter Haven.....
Tampa.....	W. M. Simons.....	Lucius Finley.....	Tampa.....
Thonotassasa.....	T. H. Jaudon.....	J. C. Rogers.....	Seffner.....
Turkey Creek.....	".....	P. P. Simmons.....	Sparkman.....
Providence.....	".....	W. F. Pratt.....	Peru*.....
Shiloh.....	Elder Whitenead.....	W. S. Knight.....	Plant City.....
Mays Chapel.....	A. A. Keith.....	Lena Mathes.....	Bloomington.....

* As last heard from.

STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCHES	MESSENGERS.	Received by Letter Experience, Ac. By J. J. S. 1	Restored	Dismissed	Expelled	Dead	Total	Sunday Schools
Bethel.....	W. W. Bostick, S. J. Hancock.....	21 2	2	14	1	82	3	
Clearwater.....	Not represented, but as last reported.....					32	1	
Gapway.....	J. J. Taylor, J. J. Taylor, Jr.*.....					48	1	
Homeland.....	E. M. Hayman, P. F. Shupe.....	2	2	4	1	18	1	
Hopewell.....	W. L. McDonald, W. L. Frierson.....	4 2	2	1		63		
Mt. Olive.....	J. A. Voyles, S. L. Bryant.....	3 4	2			31		
Lakeland.....	C. S. McCrary, A. J. Mills.....	2 2	2	6		51	1	
Mays Chapel.....	James Weeks.....	2 5	2	1		12	1	
Seffner.....	Wm. O'Brien, Mary J. Wimpigier.....	4 2	2	1		20		
Tampa.....	J. T. Durst, Mrs. Emily Craft.....	5 19	4	1		70	2	
Turkey.....	L. J. Simmons, S. Walden.....	21	1	6	1	72		
Thonotassasa.....	T. H. Jaudon, T. G. Andersen.....	11 1	1			55	1	
Shiloh.....	E. W. Norwood, Thos. Wilder.....	14 7	2			103	1	
Winter Haven.....	By letter and contribution.....	4	2			9	1	

* As last reported.

SACRED TO THE MEMORY OF

DEACON TIMOTHY GIBSON,

WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE JULY 15th, 1887.
AGED 74 YEARS, 4 MONTHS, 12 DAYS.

Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from
henceforth yea saith the spirit, that they may rest from
their labors, and their works do follow them.

[This aged father in Israel was a Deacon 49 years.--Clerk.]

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