

Baptist Association

# MINUTES

OF THE

STETSON LIBRARY

FOURTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

St. Mary's River Missionary Baptist Association

HELD WITH

HEBRON CHURCH,

CAMDEN COUNTY, GEORGIA, SEPTEMBER 28, 30, AND OCTOBER 1, 1882.

ATLANTA, GEORGIA:

LAM. F. HARRISON & Co., PRINTERS AND PUBLISHERS.

1882.

FLORIDA STATE LIBRARY

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*Order of Business.*

1. Introductory Speech.
2. Association opened in order by the Moderator.
3. Letters from the church are called for, read, and copies of them  
sent out.
4. Prayers are called for.
5. Location of business.
6. Inviting visiting brethren to seats.
7. Letters of correspondence are called for.
8. A presentation of committees.
9. Certain letters called for.
10. Reports of building and other committees.
11. Queries called for and considered.
12. Any other business.
13. Adjournment.

*Officers of the Association and their Posts.*

- G. A. Malhotre, Moderator, King's Ferry, Florida.  
 G. H. Peoples, Clerk, St. Mary's, Georgia.  
 W. C. Wilder, Treasurer, St. Mary's, Florida.

*Ordinary Ministers and their Parishes.*

- G. A. Malhotre, King's Ferry, Florida.  
 Theodore Davis, King's Ferry, Florida.  
 G. A. Peoples, St. Mary's, Georgia.  
 L. W. Simmons, St. Mary's, Georgia.

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## FIRST DAY.

Friday, September 20th, 1883.

The Introductory Sermon was preached at 11 o'clock, by Elder K. Chambers, of Nassau County, Florida, from Isaiah 5th chapter, 20th verse: "The law and the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them." After which an intermission of thirty minutes was given for refreshments.

The Association was then called to order by Rev. C. A. McWhorter, Moderator, and after religious services concluded, the messengers from the churches were then called to forward the names of delegates duly enrolled as follows:

From the brethren—G. A. Mallico, J. M. Mann,  
From Messengers—W. C. Wilds, Curtis Higginbotham,  
From New Providence—E. A. McWhorter, A. B. Brown,  
From Epworth—G. W. Haddock.

Religious letters were called for by the pastor from the First Church, Nassau County, Florida, who presented a letter for membership to the Association, and also a letter of disaffiliation. The church was received, the Moderator presenting the same and fellowship in behalf of the Association.

A motion was made to elect the officers of the Association by ballot.

An election was then held, which resulted in the choice of Elder G. A. Mallico, Moderator; G. H. Peoples, Clerk, and W. C. Wilds, Treasurer.

Visiting brethren were then invited to seats, when Elder K. Chambers and J. W. Simmons were welcomed by the Moderator, and requested to take part in the deliberations of the Association.

Correspondence from sister Associations called for. None presented.

Appointment of committees, as follows:  
On Letters and Queries—E. A. McWhorter, W. C. Wilds.  
On Sunday schools—A. B. Brown, Curtis Higginbotham.  
On Missions—E. A. McWhorter, Curtis Higginbotham.  
Periodicals, etc.—A. B. Brown, G. W. Haddock.  
On State of Religion in the Churches—E. A. McWhorter, G. W. Haddock.

On Finances—G. W. Haddock, W. C. Wilds.  
On Nominations—E. A. McWhorter, G. W. Haddock.  
On Religious Exercises—W. C. Wilds, E. A. McWhorter.

The Committee on Religious Exercises were requested to report as soon as possible.

The committee reported that they had selected Elder L. W. Simmons to preach on Saturday at 11 o'clock, and Elder K. Chambers to preach the missionary sermon on Sabbath at 11 o'clock.

Report received and adopted.

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Brother E. A. McWhorter then addressed the Association in behalf of our Foreign Mission Board in a stirring and pointed speech, calling the attention of the Association to the wants of the Board, and presenting facts to the Association in regard to the missionary work of the Southern Baptist Convention, in both its foreign and domestic fields, which it is hoped will be productive of much good. His address called forth remarks from Elders K. Chambers and L. W. Simmons.

After singing and prayer, adjourned to meet on Saturday at 9 o'clock A. M.

SECOND DAY.

SATURDAY, September 30th, 1882.

The Association was called, and after singing and prayer by the Moderator, business was resumed.

The Minutes of Friday were read and approved.

Reports of committees were called for and read, as follows:

*On Letters and Queries.*

Your Committee on Letters and Queries report that there have not been any letters or queries submitted to them for examination, and find nothing claiming the attention of the Association.

Respectfully submitted, E. A. McWHORTER, Chairman.  
Report received and adopted.

*On Sunday-Schools.*

Your Committee on Sunday-schools are pained to report that there are no Sunday-schools reported as existing in any of the churches within the bounds of the Association. Would recommend that each church establish a school; but, if that is impracticable, that each member, at least for a few hours on Sunday, teach their children the cardinal doctrines of our religion.

Respectfully submitted, A. B. BROWN, Chairman.  
Report received and adopted.

*On Periodicals and Religious Literature.*

Your Committee on Periodicals and Religious Literature beg leave to report, and would recommend to the members of the churches belonging to the Association the following papers, to-wit: THE CHRISTIAN INDEX, published at Atlanta, Ga.; THE FOREIGN MISSION JOURNAL, published by our Board of Foreign Missions, Richmond, Va.; also, *Kind Words*, published at Macon, Ga., the latter for the benefit of our children, and that this Association recognize THE INDEX as its organ. We especially recommend the Holy Bible as our text book and as the guide to our life.

Respectfully submitted, A. B. BROWN, Chairman.

*On Missions.*

Your Committee on Missions are sorry to report that not a single church in the Association has sent any money for missions; and we would made the inquiry, was it from negligence on the part of the churches, or was it the want of missionary spirit? We must think

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that it was from thoughtlessness, or, rather, a want of knowledge as to the missionary projects of our Southern Baptist Convention. We would, therefore, urge upon the individual members of the churches to inform themselves as to the missionary operations of our Convention, and would earnestly urge upon our pastors to preach at least one special missionary sermon twice during the year, as there are abundant topics and continued information to be derived from the different missionaries and missionary stations to make many interesting sermons.

Brethren, we must prove our faith by our works. We cannot love our Saviour if we neglect the means of grace which He has given us. Giving is a part of our worship, and we cannot worship God in spirit and in truth if we withhold from him our gifts of substance, for He has taught us, "freely ye have received, freely give," and that it is "more blessed to give than to receive." Brethren, let us at least try to follow His example, for He has this year given us freely of His bounty, and prosperity reigns throughout our whole country.

We have no plans to suggest, any plan worked with true devotion will succeed. Let us, then, be more diligent in our efforts to awaken among our brethren a sense of their solemn duty and high privilege of giving, that the gospel may be preached to every creature. And let us unceasingly pray the Father of all grace "to give us in His love ultimate success in filling the world with His glory in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Respectfully submitted,

E. A. McWHORTER, *Chairman.*

The hour of 11 o'clock having arrived, Eld. L. W. Simmons preached, by appointment on yesterday, from the 16th chapter of Acts, 31st verse, "And said, Cornelius, thy prayer is heard, and thine arms are had in remembrance in the sight of God." After which business was resumed.

*On State of Religion.*

Your committee has examined carefully the letters of the churches in connection with this body, in order to form an opinion as to the state of religion in the churches, and find that all the churches have preaching once a month. There have been no revivals in any of the churches, and only one church reports an increase of membership as to numbers joining by experience. Some have reported a few by letter, and one has reported a loss by excommunication. While the churches report the gospel is preached to them faithfully, your committee cannot see that the prospect is encouraging, and earnestly urge upon the churches to be more faithful and zealous in all their church relations, and especially do we most earnestly urge upon them to cultivate family religion, as it is the main spring to a vigorous and living Christianity, and to a faithful training of our children in the way that they should go. Your committee earnestly hope that the churches will arouse themselves to a sense of their duty, and be able to report to our next Association a more gratifying state of religion than has hitherto prevailed, and more flattering evidences of spiritual growth and religious development.

Respectfully submitted.

E. A. McWHORTER, *Chairman.*

Report received and adopted.

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On Finance.

The Committee on Finance beg leave to report that no money has been sent up from any of the churches for any purposes, except for Missions, as follows: H. from \$5.00, New Providence, \$5.00, Mount Olive, \$7.00, Ephesus, \$1.00  
W. C. WILDS,  
Chairman.

Received and accounted for

The New Institution

The Committee on Missions beg leave to report that Elder I. A. Harper be requested to preach the Introductory Sermon at the Maleville alternately, and that Bro. J. H. DeVotie, of our State Board of Missions, be requested to preach the Missionary Sermon. W. S. Simmons, Chairman. We recommend that the next Association be held at New Providence church, Camden County, Georgia.  
E. A. McWhorter, Chairman.

Report received and accepted

After some general remarks by different brethren on missions and the state of religion in the churches, a motion was made and carried that a committee of seven be appointed to be organized in the Camden County Association of Missions, and that said committee be authorized to hold a conference at New Providence church, Camden County, Georgia, on the 5th Sunday during the year, to favor a missionary spirit in the churches, and if possible to procure and employ to work with in the bounds of the Association, and report to the next Association. The following names were appointed:

- From New Providence, E. A. McWhorter
- From Mount Olive, W. C. Wilds
- From Hefron, G. H. Peoples
- From Ephesus, G. W. Habbeck

It was resolved that a collection be taken up tomorrow (Sunday) after the Missionary Sermon, to assist in paying a missionary to work in the bounds of the Association.

Elder L. W. Simmons and brother E. A. McWhorter were appointed delegates to the Baptist State Convention at Griffin, Georgia.

After singing and prayer adjourned to meet on Sunday morning at 10 o'clock.

THIRD DAY.

SUNDAY MORNING, October 1st, 1882.

By appointment, Elder E. Chambers preached the Missionary Sermon to a large and attentive congregation, from 66th Psalm; and 5th verse, after which a hymn was sung, and a collection taken up amounting to \$15.43 for missionary purposes within the bounds of the Association.

The Association adjourned to meet with New Providence church, Camden County, Georgia, on Friday, the 28th of September, 1883, after the parting meal had been given, a hymn sung, and prayer and the benediction by the Moderator.

G. H. PEEPLES, Clerk.

G. A. MALLETT, Moderator.

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STATISTICS.

Name of Church	Baptized	Admitted by letters	Re-tored	Excommunicated	Dismissed	Died	Total church membership	Contributions for Minutes
Hobson							31	\$ 10
St. Paul's							32	5 00
St. Andrew's							24	5 00
St. James							21	1 25