

SAMPSON LIBRARY
JOHN B. STETSON UNIVERSITY
DeLAND FLORIDA

SAMPSON LIBRARY
JOHN B. STETSON UNIVERSITY
DeLAND FLORIDA

MINUTES

OF THE

FOURTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

St. Marys River Baptist Ass'n,

HELD AT BETHEL CHURCH, BAKER COUNTY, FLA.,
OCT. 20, 21, 22, 23, 1892.

OFFICERS:

W. G. PATTERSON, Moderator..... FERNANDINA, FLA.
C. A. SAULS, Clerk..... CALLAHAN, FLA.
W. A. OGILVIE, Treasurer..... CALLAHAN, FLA.

OCALA, FLA.
FLORIDA BAPTIST WITNESS PUBLISHING HOUSE.
1892.

MINUTES

OF THE

FOURTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

St. Marys River Baptist Ass'n,

HELD AT BETHEL CHURCH, BAKER COUNTY, FLA.
OCT. 20, 21, 22, 23, 1892.

OFFICERS:

W. G. PATTERSON, Moderator, FERNANDINA, FLA.
C. A. SAULS, Clerk, CALLAHAN, FLA.
W. A. OGILVIE, Treasurer, CALLAHAN, FLA.

OCALA, FLA.

FLORIDA BAPTIST WITNESS PUBLISHING HOUSE.

1892.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Introductory Sermon.
2. Association called to order by the Clerk.
3. Reading of Letters and Enrollment of Names of Delegates
4. Petitionary Letters.
5. Election of Officers, and Permanent Organization.
6. Inviting Visiting Brethren to seats.
7. Letters of Correspondents called for.
8. Appointment of Committees.
9. Circular Letters called for.
10. Report of Standing and other Committees.
11. Queries called for and considered.
12. Miscellaneous Business.
13. Adjournment.

MINUTES.

FIRST DAY.

BETHEL CHURCH, BAKER CO., FLA.,
Oct. 20, 1892.

The St. Mary's River Association met pursuant to adjournment with the Bethel Church, Baker county, Fla., on October 20, 1892.

Introductory sermon was preached by Rev. Dr. J. S. Whorten, from Ephesians, III, 19: "And to know the love of Christ which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fullness of God."

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Association called to order by the Clerk. On motion Rev. W. G. Patterson was elected Moderator *pro tem*.

The letters from the churches were then called for and read by Dr. J. S. Whorten and Rev. L. W. Simmons and the messengers names enrolled as follows:

New Providence—J. A. Mills.

Marietta—E. H. Ellis, C. A. Young and Richard Mott.

Bethany—C. A. Sauls.

Thomas Creek—Rev. R. Keith, J. D. Ogilvie, James Burney, W. A. Ogilvie.

Bethel—C. F. Barber, J. D. Chalker, Sister E. A. Barber, Sister Ida Darby.

Camp Pinkney—Rev. D. Sikes.

Macedonia—J. C. Braddock, Mack Burney.

Brandy Branch—N. H. Hunt, W. M. Chesser, B. L. Higginbotham.

Mt. Olive—T. J. Wingate, W. C. Wilds,

Ruhamah—Joseph Mills, W. F. Allen.

Fernandina—Revs. J. S. Whorten and W. G. Patterson.

The Association then proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year, which resulted in the election of W. G. Patterson, Moderator; C. A. Sauls, Clerk; J. D. Ogilvie, Assistant Clerk; W. A. Ogilvie, Treasurer.

Visiting brethren were then invited to seats, when Rev. L. J. Simmons, of South Florida Association; Rev. J. H. Neil, of Washington (Ga.) Association; Rev. E. Trice, of St. Johns Association; Rev. L. W. Kickliter, of New River Association; Prof. J. L. Fountain, Lakeside College, Lake City, Fla.; Rev. J. C. Porter, Business Manager of FLORIDA BAPTIST WITNESS, were welcomed by the Moderator and requested to take part in the deliberations of the Association.

Petitionary letters were then called for, when the letters of the New Sheron Baptist Church of Callahan, Fla., and the First Baptist Church of Jacksonville, Fla., were presented, asking for membership in the Association, and on motion the churches were received, and messengers, Rev. Malcolm MacGregor, of the First Baptist Church, at Jacksonville, Fla., and J. M. Ogilvie, T. M. Lipscombe, of New Sheron Church, Callahan, Fla., presenting themselves, the Moderator presented the hand of fellowship on behalf of the Association.

The following committees were then appointed:

On Letters and Queries—W. F. Allen, J. C. Braddock and W. A. Ogilvie.

On Publications—J. A. Mills, E. H. Ellis and C. A. Young.

On State of Religion in the Churches—D. Sikes, R. Mott, James Burney.

On Finance—T. J. Wingate, C. F. Barber, N. H. Hunt.

On Deceased Ministers and Deacons—J. D. Chalker, B. L. Higginbotham, J. Mills.

On Discipline—J. S. Wharton, R. Keith, J. M. Ogilvie.

On Nominations—W. C. Wilds, J. C. Braddock, N. H. Hunt.

On Woman's Mission Work—Sister E. A. Barber, Mrs. Norris and Mrs. Ida Darby.

On Temperance—J. S. Whorten, D. C. Andrews, Rev. Malcom MacGregor.

On motion the Association adjourned until to-morrow at 9 o'clock. Prayer offered by Rev. Malcom MacGregor.

SECOND DAY.

Religious exercises conducted by S. W. Walker, after which the Association was called to order by the Moderator.

The messengers from the Live Oak church arrived; letter read, and messengers' names enrolled as follows: David Green, Richard Higginbotham.

The letter from the Ephesus church presented without messengers.

The Moderator proceeded to the appointment of committees:

On Christian Education—Rev. Malcolm MacGregor, Rev. J. S. Wharton, L. W. Kickliter.

REPORT ON CHRISTIAN EDUCATION.

That we do not emphasize too strongly the importance of Christian Education, and the duty and privilege of supporting our own institutions of learning, viz: the Stetson

University, located at DeLand, for the education of both sexes, and the other the Lakeside College, at Lake City, Fla., for the higher education of females. These institutions are furnished with a first-class corps of officers and teachers, and are equal if not superior to any similar schools in other states, and we most heartily commend these excellent institutions to our people, not only in this Association, but throughout this and adjoining states.

Respectfully submitted,

J. S. WHARTON,
MALCOM MACGREGOR,
D. C. ANDREWS,

Committee.

Which, after remarks by Prof. J. L. Fountain, was adopted.

REPORT ON WOMAN'S MISSION WORK.

That we do not at present have the information at hand in regard to what has been done by the aid societies within the bounds of this Association, except the Woman's Missionary Aid Society of Macclenny, which has raised and paid out toward the debt and completion of their church edifice already \$150; and through other efforts made by said society, the church now is almost free from debt, and this noble band of workers are now ready to launch into the deep and let down the net for a draught of fishes from foreign waters. May the Lord grant a glorious rally all along the line of woman's work in our Association and State.

MRS. E. A. BARBER,
MRS. IDA DARBY,
MRS. SARAH NORRIS,
Committee.

REPORT ON LETTERS AND QUERIES.

Your committee beg leave to report that there have

not been any Letters or Queries sent up to the Association for us to consider. Respectfully submitted,

W. A. OGILVIE, Ch'mn.
J. C. BRADDOCK,
W. F. ALLEN,
Committee.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The Executive Committee appointed at your last session make the following report of their transactions: The committee went to work as soon as it was appointed. We employed Rev. L. W. Simmons and J. L. Eddings for part of their time. J. L. Eddings reported two quarters and one month's labor; miles traveled, 1,127; sermons preached, 52; baptized, 21; books sold, 1; Bibles donated, 6; pages of tracts distributed, 3,040. The committee paid J. L. Eddings \$86.46.

Brother Simmons gave part of his time as missionary. Miles traveled, 1,026; sermons preached, 35; Sunday-school addresses, 9; prayer meetings attended, 13; baptized 4; family visits, 26. The committee paid Brother Simmons \$103.09; we paid Brother W. C. Wilds \$7.00 for his expenses to the State Convention in the interests of this Association; the committee paid to the new organized church at Callahan, \$13.40; the committee has received through the union meetings, \$188.24, and we received from the State Board, \$12; books and tracts, \$3.65, and \$41.20 given to the committee at the last Association, making a total in all that the committee received, \$245.09. Total amount paid out by the committee, \$208.86. After paying our missionaries, we have a balance on hand of \$36.23.

A. E. OGILVIE, Treasurer.

REPORT ON DISCIPLINE.

The committee submit the following: No case hav-

8
ing been presented to us, we have no report to make.

J. S. WHARTON,
ROBERT KEITH,
J. M. OGILVIE,
Committee.

Adopted.

REPORT ON STATE OF CHURCHES.

While it is a source of pleasure to us, and should excite our profound gratitude to God, the giver of all good, that our churches have been enabled to report great progress, and have enjoyed a great in-gathering of members, thus enabling us to thank God, take courage and press on in His divine service; yet when we remember how much necessity there is for active work, and how short is the time allotted to us to work for the salvation of the perishing in the bounds of our Association alone, we have serious cause to regret that we have not put forth more united and harmonious efforts to save those perishing, standing shoulder to shoulder and heart to heart, that labors of our hands and our hearts in the work of the Lord might have resulted in greater success to His cause. God grant us more of the grace of humanity and christian charity for the year to come that our cause may have increased success.

D. SIKES,
J. E. BURNEY,
RICHARD MOTT,
Committee.

Adopted.

On motion of Dr. J. S. Wharton, at the close of services to-day, a collection was taken for the support of Brother Madison Blitch, of Levy county, Fla., who wishes to finish his course of education as a minister at the Stetson University at DeLand, Fla.

On motion, we adjourned until 1 o'clock p. m. Prayer

offered by Rev. L. J. Simmons, and preaching by Rev. J. C. Porter, at 11 o'clock, from Romans I, 16: "For I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ."

REPORT ON SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.

We find that there are few churches in this Association but what has a living Sunday-school. We would also state that our pastors, as far as we know, have instructed the churches on the importance of Sunday-schools. We find that the Sunday-school work has been greater this year than ever before, and feel that the Sunday-school Convention has been a great benefit to us in carrying on this great work for our Lord and Master. We further ask the prayers of this entire Association, and each individual member of the different churches, in the interest of the Sunday-school.

And we further recommend the Kind Words literature to be used in every Sunday-school.

Respectfully submitted,

J. M. OGILVIE,
JOSEPH MILLS,
R. M. HIGGINBOTHAM,
Committee.

Remarks by Dr. Wharton and C. A. Young. On motion, the Sunday-schools recognize the Kind Words and American Baptist Publication Society.

Remarks by J. C. Porter, J. Mills and L. W. Kickliter. Report received and adopted.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Association called to order by the Moderator, and business resumed.

REPORT ON PERIODICALS.

Realizing the great importance of reading good literature, your committee submit the following: We are glad

to note the continued improvement in our paper, the **BAPTIST WITNESS**. It gives us good, sound doctrinal principles, and we do heartily recommend it to all members of the church and to all homes and firesides. It contributes a real feast of good things every week, and we earnestly request all pastors of churches to recommend it to their charges. We also recommend the American Baptist Publication Society literature; also the literature put out by the Southern Baptist Convention. All of which we respectfully submit.

J. A. MILLS, Ch'mn,
C. A. YOUNG,
E. H. ELLIS,
Committee.

Remarks by C. A. Young, Rev. J. C. Porter, Dr. J. S. Wharton, Revs. L. W. Kickiter, R. Keith and D. Sikes.
Report adopted.

Before adjournment, on motion a collection was taken for Brother Madison Blitch as follows:

Rev. J. C. Porter.....	\$ 5.00
Bethel church, by J. D. Chalker.....	5.00
Prof. J. L. Fountain, of Lake City, Fla.....	5.00
Marietta church, by J. H. Ellis.....	5.00
Y. P. A. S. of First Baptist church, Jacksonville, Fla.....	10.00
Fernandina church.....	5.00
Thomas Creek church.....	5.00
Ruhamah church, by Joseph Mills.....	5.00
Brandy Branch church, by John Lane.....	5.00
Live Oak church, by David Green.....	5.00
Paid by C. A. Young.....	2.00
Cash collection.....	5.81

Total.....\$62.81

After which the Association adjourned till Saturday at 9 o'clock a. m.

THIRD DAY.

Saturday morning, Devotional exercises conducted by Rev. J. H. Neil, after which the Association was called to order by the Moderator.

Prayer offered by Brother J. M. Ogilvie, and business resumed.

REPORT ON NOMINATIONS.

We, your committee, submit the following: We recommend that the next session of this Association be held with Ephesus church, Nassau county, Florida, on Thursday, before the 4th Sunday in October, 1893, and Rev. W. G. Patterson preach the Introductory sermon, Rev. L. W. Simmons, alternate; and Rev. J. S. Wharton preach the Missionary sermon, Rev. E. O. Trice, alternate. Your committee also nominate an Executive Committee for the consideration of the Association, to-wit: W. C. Wilds, J. B. Jones, A. E. Ogilvie, W. F. Simmons, W. C. Davis, W. M. Wilds, E. Foraker, W. H. Wingate, Thomas M. Lipscomb, J. C. Braddock, C. A. Young, S. F. Barbee, L. W. Guernsey. Respectfully submitted,

W. C. WILDS, Ch'mn,
N. H. HUNT,
J. C. BRADDOCK,

Adopted.

Committee.

REPORT ON DECEASED MINISTERS AND DEACONS.

Your committee submit the following: Death has again visited our Association by taking from our midst our beloved brother, Rev. J. A. Johnson, a faithful minister of the Gospel, and loved by all who knew him. He has been the means of bringing numbers to Christ by his earnest and faithful work for the Master. Your committee would recommend that a page of our minutes be devoted to his

memory by inscribing his name, birth and death. None of our deacons have died during the past year.

Respectfully submitted,

JAS. D. CHALKER,
B. L. HIGGINBOTHAN,
JOSEPH MILLS,
Committee.

A motion from Rev. J. S. Wharton, that the literature of the American Baptist Publication Society be advertised in our minutes.

A Centennial collection was taken amounting to \$2.72.

Moved to adjourn. Prayer offered by Rev. Malcolm MacGregor; preaching by him at 11 o'clock, from Revelations II, 15.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Devotional exercises by the Moderator of singing and prayer. Meeting called to order by the Moderator. Prayer offered by E. H. Ellis.

By order of the Association, that we have 500 copies of these minutes published.

A committee consisting of W. A. Ogilvie, D. Sikes and E. H. Ellis was appointed to make some arrangements to help the aged ministers in this Association, and to report at the next annual session.

On motion, all who attend the State Convention be recognized as members.

On motion the Clerk was paid \$7.00 for his services.

Resolved, That we recommend to the churches of this Association the necessity of seeing that ministers offering to serve them as a minister, have the proper credentials of good recommendation before they employ him to do any work.

D. SIKES.

On motion of Rev. D. Sikes, the funds sent up to the

Association for Associational purposes be used for paying for printing the minutes, and for paying the Clerk for his work, and all that is over be turned over to the Executive Committee. Then there was a collection taken up for the Camp Pinkney church amounting to \$5.80.

REPORT ON FINANCE.

Your Committee on Finance report that we have received the following amount from this body, which we turn over to the Treasurer of this Association: For minutes, \$20.80; Associational purposes, \$16.21; Foreign Missions, \$2.71; S. S. F. Missions, \$1.50. Total, \$41.22.

C. F. BARBEE,
N. H. HUNT,
T. J. WINGATE,

REPORT ON MISSIONS.

Your committee to which was assigned the report on Missions, beg leave to submit the following, viz:

1st. *State Missions*—Whereas, the work of this board is confined exclusively to the State of Florida, yet indirectly it has the world for its field. In addition to the building of church edifices and assisting weak churches in the employment of competent pastors, we are at the same time planting vines, which are to sustain all the other Boards. In fact, this Board is the foundation stone upon which all the other Boards rest. If this should fail all the others must correspondingly suffer. Therefore we should push forward the work of this Board with increased energy and liberality, as upon its success depends the future of all our other work. Under the efficient management of our faithful and much beloved Secretary, Brother Chaudoin, it has done a great work so far, and is in a promising condition for future work; but we should give to him and this Board our most liberal and earnest support, as much depends on it for our future success.

2nd. *Home Missions*—Whereas, the State and Home Mission Boards are closely linked together in their work, yet there is a vast difference between them, which should be thoroughly understood, as contributions for one may seem sufficient for both.

Whereas, the State Board is confined exclusively to this State, the work of the Home Board goes beyond into other regions of our territory, including Cuba, where such a grand work has been done, through its faithful Secretary, Dr. Tichnor, and Rev. A. Diaz; also the Indian Territory, with its boundaries still enlarging. This Board deserves the liberal support of all the churches.

3rd. *Foreign Missions*—The reports of our missionaries in Italy, China, Japan, Mexico and other foreign fields, are encouraging. But more missionaries and money are being loudly called for, and we must listen to their call, as we have sent them forward, and they are in the midst of the work and bearing the heat and burden of the day. The cry is: The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few; pray you the Lord of the harvest that He will send more laborers into the field. The prayers have gone up and have been answered. The men are standing to-day ready to go; all that is needed is the money wherewith to send them. How shall that be raised? The Southern Baptist Convention, at its last session in Atlanta, Ga., passed a resolution calling upon the churches within its jurisdiction to raise, for the purpose of sending missionaries into foreign fields and for chapel building, a Centennial Fund of \$250,000, to be equally divided between the Home and Foreign Boards; the amount assigned to Florida being \$1,500. This amount can be raised easily and more besides, if the needs of the Boards and the suffering and lost condition of the heathen be preached faithfully from the pulpit, and taught in missionary meetings, Sunday-schools and at the home altar. We believe the cause of such small collections in this part is due more to ignorance on the subject of missions than to scarcity of money.

Let the churches know the lost condition of the heath-

en world unless they are brought to a knowledge of Christ, and the love of Christ will constrain them to send the Gospel to them, that their eyes too may be opened and that they may be brought from darkness into light, and from the bondage of satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in Christ.

We are glad to see the interest that is manifested by the churches of this Association in missionary work. We find that there has been \$208.86 collected and used in supplying the destitute places in the Association, and we commend the brethren for their work.

MALCOLM MACGREGOR,
D. C. ANDRES,
J. S. WHARTON,
Committee

CENTENNIAL MISSION WORK.

Fernandina church	\$ 5.00
Bethel church	5.00
Marietta church	5.00
Paid Marietta church	1.00
Bethel Sabbath-school	2.00
Rev. E. Trice (paid)	1.00
Mrs. E. A. Barber (paid)	50
Sister Dohson	50
C. F. Barber (paid)	1.00
Mrs. Barber's mother (aged 86)	50
Mr. Ida Darby	50
J. D. Ogilvie (paid)	1.00
Cash collected	2.72
Total	\$25.72

REPORT ON PREACHING.

We, your Committee on Preaching, report that Rev. M. MacGregor preach at 7 o'clock p. m., Thursday; Rev. J. C. Porter preach at 11 o'clock a. m., and Rev. R. Keith at 7 o'clock p. m., Friday; Rev. M. MacGregor at 11 o'clock a. m., and Rev. W. G. Patterson at 7 o'clock p. m., Saturday; Rev. J. O. Harris preach at 11 a. m., Sunday; Rev. W. G. Patterson preach at the M. E. church at 11 a. m., and Rev. L. W. Kickliter at the Baptist church at 7 p. m., Sunday.

E. TRICE, Ch'mn.

RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved, That our thanks are hereby tendered to the pastor, officers and members of the Bethel church, for their valuable assistance rendered in our Associational work and otherwise, and the clerks of this Association for their promptness in the performance of their duties; and to the Moderator for the impartiality with which he has presided over our deliberations, and for the promptness and dispatch with which he has transacted our business; and finally, to the ladies generally for their presence and otherwise, who have contributed so greatly to our pleasure and comfort during our sojourn among them.

Resolved, That this Association tender to the good people of Macclenny, regardless of denomination, their heartfelt thanks for the cordial and hospitable manner in which they have been received and entertained during this present session, and we pray that the blessing of God may rest upon them and bountifully abide with them in all coming time. We also hereby tender our sincere thanks to the officers of the F. C. & P. and S. F. & W. railroads, for their reduction of fares to the delegates attending this session of the St. Mary's River Association, and they will be held in kind remembrance for all past favors.

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

Realizing the widespread influence of the monster intemperance in our midst, and the great hindrance to our work, we believe that more active steps should be taken for its suppression. We, therefore, do prayerfully recommend that the churches of this Association take a decided and positive stand in regard to the license question and administer Gospel discipline to such members who so far forget their covenant obligations to God and to the church, to sign bar-room petitions—the giving the hand of fellowship to the unfaithful workers of darkness.

We also recommend that the St. Mary's River Association of churches, with their pastors and deacons, deprecate in the most solemn and earnest manner, the custom and habit of some church members who enter and frequent bar-rooms and drinking saloons, and who associate themselves too frequently with the rum element, in this way running contrary to the word of God, which says: 1st Psalm, 1st verse—"Blessed is the man that walketh not in the council of the ungodly." Also Eph. II, 15—"Have no fellowship with the unfaithful works of darkness," etc. And we suggest that the same course be pursued in regard to such members as drink, and tittle, and treat, and thus bring reproach on the cause, and give occasion to the enemies of the cross of Christ to scoff and sneer at the religion of our blessed Lord.

Paul says: 1st Cor. VIII, 13—"Wherefore, if meat make my brother to offend, I will eat no flesh while the world standeth," etc. And in Romans XII, 21—"It is good neither to eat flesh nor drink wine, nor anything whereby my brother stumbleth," etc.

We further beseech the sisters of our churches to use all proper and lawful means within their power for the suppression of this great evil, which is rushing over 100,000 souls annually, in the land of Christian civilization and freedom, into the drunkard's eternity. And we suggest that the pastors preach at least once a year on the subject of

intemperance. We also recommend the laity to do all in their power for the protection and salvation of our young men from the fell destroyer.

Submitted in the love and fear of God.

J. S. WHARTON,
MALCOLM MACGREGOR,
J. N. OGILVIE,

Committee.

Remarks by J. S. Wharton, W. G. Patterson, E. Trice,
J. C. Porter, D. Sikes and L. W. Kickliter.
Adopted.

On motion the Association adjourned; to meet again with the Ephesus church, Nassau Co., Fla., on Thursday before the 4th Sunday in October, 1893. After which a hymn was sung and the parting hand given.

W. G. PATTERSON, Moderator.

S. A. SAULS, Clerk.

SUNDAY SERVICES.

Before the preaching services, a Sunday-school mass meeting was conducted by Rev. J. O. Harris. After several interesting Sunday-school lectures by Brothers J. O. Harris, Joseph Mills and E. Trice, a most interesting sermon was preached by Rev. J. O. Harris, from Romans VI, 23; subject, "Life and Death." After which a collection was taken up for the Bethel church, amounting to \$75.06

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

W. G. Patterson..... Fernandina, Fla.
J. S. Wharton..... Fernandina, Fla.
Malcolm MacGregor..... Jacksonville, Fla.
Theo. Davis..... Hilliard, Fla.
D. Sikes..... Folkston, Ga.
L. W. Simmons..... Hilliard, Fla.
R. Keith..... Starke, Fla.
W. S. Harris..... Callahan, Fla.

CHURCH, CLERKS AND POST OFFICES.

New Sheron—J. A. Johnson..... Callahan, Fla.
First Baptist—L. W. Guernsey..... Jacksonville, Fla.
Bethel—S. R. Potter..... Macclenny, Fla.
First Baptist—F. W. Simmons..... Fernandina, Fla.
Mt. Olive—T. J. Wingate..... Evergreen, Fla.
New Providence—Joseph Mills, Sr..... Sheffield, Ga.
Ephesus—W. M. Wilds..... Evergreen, Fla.
Thomas Creek—W. A. Ogilvie..... Callahan, Fla.
Live Oak—L. L. Jones..... Callahan, Fla.
Bethany—J. H. Buford..... Callahan, Fla.
Macedonia—O. E. Small..... Dinsmore, Fla.
Ruhamah—A. B. Brown..... Oakwell, Fla.
Camp Pinckney—J. R. Cooper..... Folkston, Ga.
Marietta—E. H. Ellis..... Marietta, Fla.
Brandy Branch—Aaron Foraker..... Baldwin, Fla.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL STATISTICS.

Superintendents.	S. S. Expenses	Total Amount Raised	No. of Schools	Officers and Teachers	Number of Pupils	Enrolled	Average Attendance	Number Baptized	Vols. in Library
L W Guernsey	\$ 7 65	\$ 10 13	1	1	60	30	30	3	30
T Patten		6 00	1	5	45	22	22	4	..
T J Wingate, W C Wilds		6 00	2	12	40	52	25	2	..
Rev J S Wharton		86 00	1	9	45	54	35	9	50
A E Ogilvie		4 00	1	6	27	32	25
J C Braddock		6 20	1	6	30	37	25
J B Jones	2 00		1	5	28		
Joseph Mills, Jr.		15 00	2	12	56	60	37
N H Hunt		2 00	1	4	15	20	15	..	60

Three Points of Superior Excellence
OF THE
PERIODICALS
PUBLISHED BY THE
American Baptist Publication Society.

THE BEST.

I. Baptist Sunday schools will not be satisfied with anything less than THE VERY BEST LESSON HELPS that can be produced, not only in literary and scholarly excellence, but in the mechanical features that render a periodical attractive alike to older and younger pupils. These requirements are entirely met by the series issued by the American Baptist Publication Society.

A GRADED SERIES.

II. The time has long since passed for a single lesson help to be distributed to all classes alike. Whether a school is definitely divided into distinct grades or not, *the grades are there* and demand recognition, and they must be regarded. Primary, Intermediate, Advanced, and Senior classes, each must have helps adapted to their several needs. Teachers also, and the superintendent, must be remembered. At every point the Society fully meets these needs. Its thirteen graded helps and papers form a series not equalled in scope and variety the world over. Comparisons are invited.

SOUND IN DOCTRINE.

III. One other requirement cannot be put aside. DOCTRINAL SOUNDNESS is absolutely essential, for on that basis only can the stability of our churches be maintained. In the periodicals of the American Baptist Publication Society, the most painstaking care is bestowed upon every page, to avoid all possible errors. The most competent editors and contributors are engaged, and the most rigid scrutiny and oversight is constantly employed.

As a natural consequence of this threefold excellence, the several periodicals have steadily increased in circulation, until they are generally used in every State and Territory of the Union. Look at the following figures giving the total circulation of the Society's periodicals during the past five years.

1886	—23,394,000	copies.
1887	—25,682,000	"
1888	—28,115,000	"
1889	—29,117,000	"
1890	—31,275,000	"
1891	—32,717,000	"

This present year the total increase at the close of January alone was thirty-three thousand copies. This furnishes occasion for great satisfaction.