

MINUTES

— OF THE —

TWENTIETH

Annual Session

— OF THE —

SAINT MARY'S RIVER

Missionary Baptist Association

— HELD WITH THE —

Thomas Creek Church, Duval County, Florida,

October 21. and 22, 1898.

OFFICERS.

S. M. SCRUGGS ..... Moderator  
JAMES D. CHALKER ..... Clerk  
A. E. OGILVIE ..... Treasurer

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OCALA, FLA.:  
BAPTIST WITNESS BOOK AND JOB PRINTING HOUSE.  
1898.

## MINUTES.

Thomas Creek Church, Oct. 21, 1898.

The St. Mary's River Association met pursuant to adjournment with Thomas Creek Church, Duval county, Florida.

In the absence of the Moderator the former Clerk called the Association to order. Bro. S. M. Scruggs was then elected Moderator pro tem. After reading a portion of Scripture and singing, prayer was offered by Rev. J. C. Porter.

Brethren Charles Sauls and J. D. Chalker were requested to act as reading clerks. Letters from the churches were called for and the following were read and the names of delegates enrolled:

The First Baptist Church of Folkston—Rev. D. Sykes and T. E. Wainright.

The First Baptist Church of Jacksonville—S. M. Scruggs, H. J. McCallum and Sister McCallum.

Mount Olive—J. M. Higginbotham, J. O. Wingate and T. J. Wingate.

Bethany—P. L. Jones, C. A. Sauls and Sisters Jessie Jones and Nettie Braddock.

Bethel—No letter; but Rev. D. C. Andress, James D. Chalker and Sister E. A. Barber, being present, were received as messengers from that church.

Thomas Creek—A. E. Ogilvie, S. A. Ogilvie and W. A. Ogilvie.

Brandy Branch—N. H. Hunt and C. Higginbotham.

Live Oak—E. Hodges and J. S. Braddock.

Macedonia—J. C. Braddock.

Petitionary letters were called for and one was received from Moniac, Ga., by the hand of her messenger, Bro. Brantley Lewis; and, the orthodoxy being vouched for by Rev. D. Sykes, the letter was read and the church received as a member of this body by the Moderator extending the right hand of fellowship to its messenger.

The hour for preaching having arrived, the Association took a recess till 1:30 p.m.

The Introductory Sermon was preached by Rev. D. Sykes from Nahum, chapter 1, part of verse 7: "The Lord is good."

## ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Introductory Sermon.
2. Association called to order by the Moderator.
3. Letters from the churches called for and read, and delegates enrolled.
4. Petitionary letters called for.
5. Election of officers.
6. Inviting visiting brethren to seats.
7. Letters of correspondence called for.
8. Appointment of committees.
9. Circular letter called for.
10. Reports of standing and other committees.
11. Queries called up and considered.
12. Miscellaneous business.
13. Adjournment.

**Afternoon Session.**

The Association was called to order and after singing and prayer the following business was had:

Letters were received and read from the following church and names of delegates enrolled:

Ephesus—J. D. Haddock, S. B. Libby and J. M. Haddock.

On motion and by a vote the rules were waived and Bro. S. M. Scruggs was elected Moderator by a ye-and-nay vote, and James D. Chalker Clerk and A. E. Ogilvie Treasurer.

Visiting brethren were invited to seats with us, and Rev. J. C. Porter, editor of the Baptist Witness; Rev. P. T. L. Queen, of the St. John's River Association; and Rev. W. L. Kickliter, from the New River Association, accepted the invitation.

The following committees were appointed:

On Religious Exercises—L. W. Kickliter, E. A. Ogilvie, S. A. Ogilvie and W. A. Ogilvie.

On Temperance—J. C. Porter, C. A. Sauls and W. A. Ogilvie.

On Missions—D. C. Andress, J. C. Braddock and A. E. Ogilvie.

On Nominations—N. H. Hunt, J. S. Braddock and E. Hodges.

On Periodicals—L. W. Kickliter, T. J. Wingate and P. L. Jones.

On Discipline—J. C. Braddock, J. O. Wingate and W. A. Ogilvie.

On Woman's Work—P. T. L. Queen, L. A. Ogilvie and John Higginbotham.

On Deceased Ministers and Deacons—T. J. Wingate, J. D. Haddock and D. C. Andress.

On Finance—W. A. Ogilvie, B. Lewis and S. B. Libby.

On Sunday Schools—D. Sykes, P. L. Jones and E. Hodges.

**REPORT ON RELIGIOUS EXERCISES.**

We, your Committee on Religious Exercises, beg leave to report that Elder J. C. Porter will preach tonight at 7 o'clock, and that J. D. Chalker will conduct the religious exercises tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock.

L. W. KICKLITER, Chairman.

On motion and by a vote the report was adopted.

**REPORT ON MISSIONS.**

We, your Committee on Missions, heartily agree with the recommendation of last year's committee to concentrate, and recommend its continuance, and recommend a more liberal contribution by the churches, and all members of the Executive Board to meet all calls at the union meeting without fail or elect such as will fill the board.

D. C. ANDRESS,  
A. E. OGILVIE,  
J. C. BRADDOCK.

After discussion by Rev. J. C. Porter, Rev. P. T. L. Queen and others, the report was adopted.

**REPORT ON DECEASED MINISTERS AND DEACONS.**

Your Committee on Deceased Ministers and Deacons find that through the mercy of God all our ministers and deacons have been spared except Deacon E. A. McQuarter of New Providence Church, who passed away this year, time unknown to your committee. To the bereaved family of Brother McQuarter we extend our heartfelt sympathy.

T. J. WINGATE,  
D. C. ANDRESS,  
J. D. HADDOCK.

On motion and by a vote the report was adopted.

Letters from the following churches were received and names of messengers enrolled:

Ruhamah—J. M. Cooner and E. C. Gillott.

Bufort Grove—O. R. Sanders.

First Baptist Church at Port Henry—C. G. Smith.

Kingsland—J. D. Thompson.

On motion the Association adjourned till tomorrow morning at 9:30 o'clock.

**Saturday Morning Session.**

After devotional services the Association was called to order by the Moderator.

A letter from Moncrief Springs was received and read and names of delegates enrolled, viz.: Paul Lowe and Sister Lowe.

**REPORT ON NOMINATIONS.**

We, your committee, recommend that the next Association be held with Bethany Church, Nassau County, Fla., commencing Friday before the fourth Sunday in October, 1899; Rev. D. C. Andress to preach the Introductory Sermon and Rev. L. W. Kickliter to preach the Missionary Sermon. We also nominate an Executive Committee for the consideration of the Association, viz.: A. E. Ogilvie, J. C. Braddock, Paul Lowe, J. B. Jones, S. M. Scruggs, J. O. Wingate and C. A. Young.

N. A. HUNT,  
P. LOWE,  
D. C. ANDRESS, Committee.

The report was read and adopted.

## REPORT ON DISCIPLINE.

We, your Committee on Discipline, beg leave to report that from information received from the letters from the different churches of the Association, a good state of discipline prevails.

J. C. BRADDOCK,  
J. O. WINGATE,  
W. A. OGILVIE.

After remarks by Rev. L. W. Kickliter and others, the report was on motion and by a vote adopted.

After an able sermon by Rev. P. T. L. Queen, the Association took a recess till 1:30 o'clock p.m.

## Afternoon Session.

## REPORT OF TREASURER.

Your Treasurer elected at the last annual session of this Association held with Ruhamah Church Oct. 21 to 24, 1897, submits the following report:

DR.	
To amount received from finance committee	\$ 85 57
To Sunday's collection	10 89
To amount received from Ruhamah Church for minutes	2 00
1897	
CR.	
Nov. 29. By amount paid for printing minutes	\$ 30 00
" " By money orders and fees for same	15
" " By express charges on minutes	1 00
" " By amount paid clerk	7 00
" " By postage for mailing minutes	81
Jan. 30, 1898, By amount turned over to Executive Committee	9 50
Total	\$18 40 \$18 40

On motion and by a vote the report was adopted.

## REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

We, your Committee on Sunday Schools, submit the following report: We find that some of our churches have Sunday schools, though many of them have none. Realizing the great benefit of Sunday schools we would urge our brethren to organize and work up the Sunday school cause in all of our churches. Respectfully submitted.

D. SYKES, Chairman.

The report was ably discussed by Rev. D. C. Andress, Rev. L. W. Kickliter, Bro. McCullum and others; and was on motion and by a vote adopted.

## REPORT ON RELIGIOUS EXERCISES.

Your Committee on Religious Exercises report that Rev. P. T. L. Queen preach at 11 o'clock a.m., and that Rev. G. A. Thompson preach at 7:30 p.m., that Rev. D. C. Andress conduct the religious services Sunday morning at 9 o'clock and Rev. P. T. L. Queen preach the Missionary Sermon Sunday at 11 o'clock a.m.

L. W. KICKLITER,  
S. A. OGILVIE,  
W. A. OGILVIE.

## REPORT ON RELIGIOUS PERIODICALS.

Your committee, fully recognizing the power of the religious press for good, would most earnestly urge all our Baptist families to supply themselves with sound religious literature. We recommend the Florida Baptist Witness, our denominational organ, to the prayerful consideration of all our people;

It is indispensable to the full development of the Christian character of the membership of our churches. We, therefore, earnestly request our pastors to urge their people to take and read the Baptist Witness. We also recommend the Foreign Mission Journal as the best periodical to furnish our people with information about our Foreign Mission work. For Sunday schools, we would recommend the literature of the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, and also the American Baptist Publication Society.

L. W. KICKLITER,  
P. L. JONES,  
T. J. WINGATE.

After being ably discussed by Rev. L. W. Kickliter and others, the report was on motion and by a vote adopted.

## REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

Your committee is gratified to be able to report that some progress is being made along this line. Our people are seeing and realizing more and more the necessity of putting down the great evil of intemperance. Intemperance is the cause of more sorrow, crime of all kinds, loss of property, health, character, honor and life and souls than any other evil, if not all others combined. We think the best methods for banishing this great evil from our midst should have our support. The first method we would suggest is by individual example and influence. Let all members of churches abstain from the use of strong drink entirely. The great misfortune is that many professing Christians indulge in the use of the vile stuff and their influence for evil is much greater than that of unbelievers.

Another means of lessening this evil is the election of upright and sober men for public offices, and the last means we would mention as needed for the promotion of the great cause of temperance is more of grace of the God, for after all this is the only power that enables man to overcome sin.

Respectfully submitted.

C. A. SAULS,  
J. C. PORTER,

W. A. OGILVIE, Committee.

After being discussed by Rev. D. Sykes, Rev. J. A. Thompson and others, it was on motion and by a vote adopted.

On motion and by a vote it was ordered that the Executive Committee should consist of but seven members and that the Committee on Nominations should select them from the different sections of this Association.

## REPORT ON FINANCE.

We, your committee, beg leave to report that we have received from the churches \$16.20.

W. A. OGILVIE,  
T. B. LEBBY,  
B. LEWIS.

## REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

We, your Executive Committee, make the following report: We employed Rev. D. Sykes part of his time, who labored for twelve months. He reported that good interest had been manifested in all of his meetings, and that the people seem anxious for the gospel. He reports sermons preached 106; days labored 142; miles traveled 4,118; families visited 114; baptized 17; funeral services 2; churches organized 1; Sunday school addresses 10; he collected

\$111.42. The board paid Bro. Sykes \$110, and gave to the Kingsland Church \$5. We received during the year \$149.53, which after paying our missionary leaves a balance now on hand of \$34.53.

A. E. OGILVIE, Secretary and Treasurer.

#### REPORT ON WOMAN'S WORK.

Your Committee on Woman's Work submit the following report: We regret that this strong arm of our church service has not received that attention and consecrated effort in our churches that its importance demands. But we are glad to report that at this present session this grand work has received much attention. A special and delightful woman's meeting was conducted by Bro. Queen of Palatka. An associational organization was effected by electing Sister E. A. Barber as president. This sister will have charge of organizing this work in the churches of this Association during the present year. Pastors and members of this Association, carry this sister and the cause she represents to the throne of grace, and may this solemn work catch new inspiration from the throne, and a good report come up to your next meeting.

P. T. L. QUEEN,  
S. A. OGILVIE,  
JOHN HIGGINBOTHAM.

#### REPORT OF WOMEN'S AID AND MISSIONARY SOCIETY

Of the First Baptist Church of Jacksonville: For Associational year from October, 1897, to October, 1898, nine meetings of the Society were held, at which meetings the studies of Mission Fields presented in the Baptist Witness were followed and found helpful and instructive. During the year \$119 have been raised for all purposes; of this \$99.14 went for Home and Foreign Missions, which included three bundles of clothing valued at \$80.80; paid to Cuban Girl's School \$10; Christmas gifts to China, \$5; Home Missions (self denial fund), \$2.25; renovating church, \$10; St. Luke's Hospital \$10; paid on organ, \$270.

Mrs. H. C. STRAWN, Secretary.

The following query was received:  
"Is it good order for a Baptist church, in the absence of the pastor, to receive a member to her fellowship upon a letter from a sister church?"

After some discussion by several brethren it was unanimously agreed that the church, and the church only, had power or authority to receive members into her body.

#### RESOLUTION OF THANKS.

Resolved, That this Association tender to the good people of Thomas Creek Church and surrounding community their heartfelt thanks for the cordial manner in which they have been received and entertained during this session, and we pray that God's blessing may rest upon them.

Bro. J. O. Wingate moved that the Clerk be paid \$10 for his services and that he be authorized to draw on the Treasurer to pay for the printing of the minutes, also to draw on the Treasurer for his salary. The motion was amended by J. D. Chalker that the Clerk be paid \$5, which amendment was accepted and the motion adopted as amended.

Rev. J. A. Thompson preached at 7 o'clock p.m., after which a collection was taken up for the benefit of Rev. B. Keith amounting to \$10.75.

On motion the Association adjourned to meet with the Bethany Church, Nassau county, Florida, on Friday before the fourth Sunday in October, 1899, at 9 o'clock a.m.

S. M. SCRUGGS, Moderator.

JAMES D. CHALKER, Clerk.

#### Sunday Services.

At 9 o'clock prayer services were held, led by Rev. D. C. Andress.

At 10 o'clock the Sunday School Convention was called to order by its president, and although the representation was small, an interesting session was had. Bro. H. J. McCullum of the Jacksonville Sunday school made a very able and touching address, followed by several other brethren in impressive appeals for the cause of the Sunday schools.

At 11 o'clock Rev. P. T. L. Queen preached the Missionary Sermon from 1 Cor. 3:16, after which a collection was taken amounting to \$21.70.

Thus closed the devotional services of a most spiritual and harmonious meeting.



### SUNDAY SCHOOL STATISTICS.

CHURCHES.	SUPERINTENDENTS AND POST OFFICES.	Contributed for Expenses.	Contributed for Missions.	Officers and Teachers. Number Enrolled.	Average Attendance.
Bethel .....	Thos. Patten, Glen St. Mary, Fla.	\$12 00	\$ 4 00	6	55
Port Henry .....	W. C. Wilds, Crandall	50 00	15 00	6	46
Jacksonville, First .....	H. J. McCullum, Jacksonville.	67 75	17 75	14	46
Ruhamah .....	J. M. Cooner, Kingsland, Ga.	8 00	2 00	6	46
Thomas Creek .....	A. E. Oglivie, Callahan	8 00	2 00	6	46

## CONSTITUTION

OF THE SAINT MARY'S RIVER MISSIONARY BAPTIST  
ASSOCIATION.

In view of the increase of fraternal love, knowledge, usefulness and efficiency which must accrue from an association of churches in cordial union upon the principles of the gospel, we now seek to be thus united, that by individual and collective action we may subserve the great objects of the Redeemer's kingdom.

Article I. This body shall be called the St. Mary's River Missionary Baptist Association.

Art. II. It shall be composed of such churches as hold to the doctrine of human depravity; the atonement of Christ; the election unto eternal life; regeneration and the perseverance of the saints; baptism by immersion, administered to none but professed believers; and the Lord's Supper, intended for those only who have been regularly admitted into the visible church.

Art. III. The officers of this Association shall consist of a Moderator, Clerk, and Treasurer, who shall be elected annually by ballot.

Art. IV. We believe in one true and living God, and that there are three persons in the Godhead.

Art. V. We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the only rule of faith and practice, both in the concerns of religion and in the general affairs of this life, and particularly in transacting the affairs of our churches.

Art. VI. We believe the church of Christ to be a congregation of baptized believers, who live in fellowship and have given themselves to the Lord and to one another in cordial agreement to observe holy discipline in conformity with the requirements of the Scriptures.

Art. VII. We believe Jesus Christ to be the great Head of the Church; that spiritual discipline, with an eye to the glory of God, must greatly conduce to the final prosperity and union of the churches.



## RULES OF DECORUM.

1. The Association shall not be dissolved without the concurrence of two-thirds of the churches composing the body, and shall have power to withdraw its connection from any church which shall act contrary to the teachings of the Holy Scriptures.
2. Any church wishing to be admitted into this body shall petition by letter and messengers, and upon examination, if found orthodox and orderly, shall be admitted.
3. Each church shall have a right to four delegates, and shall be entitled to one additional delegate for every fifty members after the first hundred; and one-fourth of the churches represented shall constitute a quorum.
4. Any query sent up to the Association by any of the churches composing this body shall be read and duly considered.
5. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the observation of the Association, unless withdrawn by the mover.
6. Every member who speaks shall rise from his seat and address the Moderator, and shall not be interrupted unless he depart from the subject.
7. No brother shall speak more than twice upon one subject without the permission of the body.
8. No member shall absent himself without leave of the Moderator.
9. It is the duty of this Association to provide for the general union of the churches; to provide for the destitution of the territory within its bounds by missionary aid, and to give the churches the best advice it can in matters of difficulty.
10. The Constitution and Rules of Decorum of this body may be altered or amended by the concurrence of two-thirds of its members.