

MINUTES

— OF THE —

Twenty-Fifth Annual Session

— OF THE —

NEW RIVER

Missionary Baptist Association,

— HELD WITH THE —

Fellowship Church, Bradford Co., Fla., Nov. 4, 5 and 6, 1896.

Officers.

Rev. L. W. Kickliter, Moderator.
J. M. Johns, Clerk.
R. F. Lewis, Treasurer.

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R. F. Lewis.....Treasurer.

Executive Committee.

L. W. Kickliter, J. M. Malphurs, J. M. Johns.
R. F. Lewis, W. H. Pinholster, J. H. Roebuck.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Introductory sermon.
2. Call the association to order.
3. Singing and prayer.
4. Reading letters and enrolment of delegates.
5. Election of officers: moderator, clerk and treasurer.
6. Invite visiting brethren to seats.
7. Call for correspondents from other associations.
8. Call for petitionary letters.
9. Appointment of committees.
10. Report of committees.
11. Report of executive committee.
12. Report of treasurer Report of other committees.
13. Appointment of messengers to state convention.
14. Miscellaneous business. Adjournment.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

ARTICLE I. We believe that the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired, and is a perfect treasury of heavenly instruction. That it has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth without any mixture or errors for its matter. That it reveals the principles by which God will judge the world in righteousness; and, therefore, it is, and shall forever remain, the true center of Christian union and the supreme standard by which all conduct, creeds and opinions shall be tried.

ART. 2. We believe that there is one, and only one, living and true God, whose name is Jehovah, the Maker and Supreme Ruler of the universe, inexpressibly glorious in holiness, worthy of all possible honor, confidence, obedience and love. That in the unity of the Godhead there are three persons—the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost—equal in every divine perfection, but executing distinct and harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.

ART. 3. We believe in the total depravity of the human heart, and that the natural state of man is such that he cannot prepare himself for divine favor without the assisting grace of God enabling him to act according to the good pleasure of God's divine will.

ART. 4. We believe in the election according to the foreknowledge of God through sanctification of the spirit

and belief of the truth, and that God by his spirit through His Son, and with His word regenerates the soul.

ART. 5. We believe that the great Gospel blessings which Christ secures to such as believe in Him, is justification by Faith, which gives peace with God, the Father, through our Lord Jesus Christ His Son.

ART. 6. We believe the Gospel of Christ is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth, and, therefore, should be preached to every creature, that the purpose of God according to election might stand.

7. We believe that all who obey the Gospel, and are regenerated by the power of God, are elected to eternal life in Christ, and are made heirs of God and joint heirs with the Lord Jesus Christ; and that they are kept by the power of God, through faith unto salvation, ready to be revealed at the last time, and that not one of them will be lost.

ART. 8. We believe that baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Jesus Christ, and spiritually designed to exemplify the death and suffering, burial and resurrection of Him, and that in baptism there are three essentials, viz: First, a proper subject; second, a proper mode; third, a proper administration, and that a proper subject is one who has been begotten by the word and born of the spirit; and that the only proper mode is by immersion of such subjects in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost; and proper administrators, only those who have been duly called and come under the imposition of the hands of the presbytery.

ART. 9. We believe that the Lord's Supper was instituted by our Lord Jesus Christ to be commemorated by his followers, and none but baptized believers, have any Scriptural right to partake thereof.

ART. 10. We believe that a "visible church" of Christ is a congregation of baptized believers, associated by a covenant in the faith and fellowship of the Gospel, observing the ordinance of Christ, governed by His laws and exercising the gifts, rights and privileges vested in them by His word.

ART. 11. We believe and acknowledge Jesus Christ to be the great head of the church, and the only Law Giver; that the government under Him is with the body, and in the privilege of each individual member; that spiritual discipline, with an eye single to the glory of God, must greatly conduce to the final prosperity and union of the church.

ART. 12. We believe that idiots and infants are saved, and saved alone by the mediation of Christ.

ART. 13. We believe that the first day of the week is the Lord's day, or Christian Sabbath, and is to be kept sacred to religious duties by abstaining from all secular labor and sinful recreation, by devout observance of all the means of grace, both public and private, and by preparation for the rest that remaineth for the people of God.

ART. 14. We believe that the end of this world is approaching; that at the last day Christ, will descend from heaven and raise the dead from their graves for final retribution; that a solemn separation will then take place; that the wicked will go away into everlasting punishment and the righteous into life eternal.

MINUTES.

November 4th., 1896.

The New River Missionary Baptist Association convened with the Fellowship Baptist church in Bradford county, Fla., and was called to order by the moderator, Elder L. W. Kickliter.

11 a.m. The introductory sermon was preached by Elder D. L. Phillips, after leading in prayer, from Exodus xiv. 15. Prayer offered, led by Elder L. W. Kickliter. The association adjourned for refreshments.

2. p.m. The association was called to order and after singing, Elder L. W. Kickliter, moderator, read John i. Prayer offered, led by Elder A. Crosby.

The moderator announced the association ready for business.

Letters called for and read by Brothers R. F. Lewis and Thomas Cason, and churches and messengers enrolled as follows:

Antioch—Elder C. F. Parker and Daniel Chesser.

Bulah—Lafayette F. Thomas and Thomas Conway.

Bethel—Jasper Brown and Robert Seckinger.

Bradford—Thomas Cason.

China Grove—James Strickland.

Deedan—A. J. Penholster.

Evergreen—Elder J. J. Clark, Jesse Reddish and Andrew Crosby.

Fellowship—Elijah Kite, S. L. Griffis, W. A. Varnes and M. Forsyth.

Hope—

Kingsley Lake—L. D. Prevatt and Gideon Sterling.

Long Branch—D. W. Bennett and E. L. Wilkerson.

Mount Zion—Winfield Oliver and James Godwin.

Mount Sinai—G. W. Scarborough, D. J. Bird and A. O. Strickland.

North Pleasant Grove—S. H. Burnett, J. H. Cason and S. T. Burnett.

New River—J. R. Williams, J. H. Popell and S. B. Cason.

New Home—

Pilgrim's Rest—

Sardis—J. I. Dubose and Mattie Dubose.

Sampson—W. H. Bailey and J. S. Williams.

Santa Fe Pond—A. E. Hutchison.

Starke—Elder L. W. Kickliter, J. M. Johns and Joseph Thomas.

On motion, Bradford church that was dropped from the roll for non-attendance was welcomed back in full membership of the association.

The association proceeded to the election of officers with the following result: Elder L. W. Kickliter, moderator; J. M. Johns, for clerk; and R. F. Lewis, for treasurer. Correspondence called for and J. S. Sterling, from the St. Johns Association, welcomed and enrolled.

The moderator appointed as committee on preaching, Thomas Cason and S. B. Cason with the deacons of Fellowship church.

On Sunday schools—Elder D. L. Phillips, L. F. Thomas and Gideon Sterling.

On Finance—Elder C. F. Parker, A. J. Pinholster and S. T. Burnett.

On deceased ministers and deacons—Jesse Reddish, S. H. Burnett and L. D. Prevatt.

Added to committee on temperance—Jasper Brown and S. B. Cason.

Committee reported that A. J. Pinholster conduct the religious services at 9 a.m. and that Elder A. Crosby preach at 11 a.m. tomorrow.

It was moved that the clerk of this association make arrangements to have all the clerks of our churches furnished with blanks for their reports to the next association. Adopted.

On motion, adjourned to 9 a.m. Prayer by Elder J. J. Clark.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5th.

After the reading of 1 John ii, and prayer offered by Elder J. J. Clark, the moderator called the association to order. Minutes read and adopted. Letters called for and read by clerk and the churches and messengers further enrolled.

The moderator announced the following committees: On letters and queries—Elder C. F. Parke, Andrew Crosby and Thomas Cason.

On nomination—Lafayette F. Thomas, J. R. Williams and G. W. Scarborough.

Reports of standing committees called for and the following committees responded:

On education—discussed by J. M. Johns, Elders L. W. Kickliter, J. C. Porter, C. F. Parker, A. Crosby and J. J. Clark. Marked "A" and adopted.

On missions—Discussed by Elders J. J. Clark and J. C. Porter. Marked "B." Elder J. C. Porter was received as editor of the Baptist Witness, welcomed and enrolled. On motion, adjourned to 1:30 p.m.

11 a.m. Elder A. Crosby read for lesson Acts xxv. After prayer by Elder J. C. Porter, preached from Acts xxv. 25. Prayer by Elder L. W. Kickliter. Dismissed to 1:30 p.m.

1:30 p.m. After singing, the moderator read Psalm lxi. Prayer offered by C. F. Parker.

Association was called to order and the moderator announced the standing committees for the ensuing year:

On missions—Elder C. F. Parker, Joseph Thomas and Lafayette F. Thomas.

On Sunday schools—Thomas Cason, S. B. Cason and Elijah Kite.

On education—Elder A. Crosby, R. F. Lewis and L. D. Prevatt.

On publications—Elder J. J. Clark, Daniel Chesser and Robert Seckenger.

On temperance—A. J. Pinholster, Jasper Brown and D. J. Bird.

Committees reported as follows:

On Temperance discussed by Elder A. Crosby, Joseph Thomas and Elder D. L. Phillips, marked "D" and adopted.

On letters and queries—adopted and marked "E."

On Publications—discussed by Joseph Thomas, A. Crosby, C. F. Parker, J. M. Johns, Elders L. W. Kickliter, J. C. Porter and Thomas Cason, marked "F" and adopted.

On deceased ministers and deacons—J. M. Johns and Elder L. W. Kickliter eulogized the memory of Deacon J. W. F. Prevatt deceased. Marked "H" and adopted.

The committee reported that Elder L. W. Kickliter preach tonight at 7 p.m. and Brother Joseph Thomas con-

duct the religious services at 9 a.m. tomorrow. On motion, adjourned until 9 a.m. tomorrow. Prayer by Elder J. J. Clark.

7 p.m. After reading John iii, Elder L. W. Kickliter offered prayer and preached from 1 John i. 7. Closed by prayer offered by Elder D. L. Phillips.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1896.

9 a.m. Devotional services conducted by Brother Joseph Thomas, after reading John xiv, offered prayer, followed in prayers offered by Brothers J. I. Dubose and W. H. Bailey.

10 a.m. Association called to order, minutes read and adopted. Letters called for, read, and churches and delegates enrolled.

Report of committee of nominations recommended that the association meet at the Evergreen church on Friday before the fourth Sunday in October, 1897; and Elder J. J. Clarke preach the introductory sermon, Elder C. F. Parker alternate and that Elder L. W. Kickliter preach the missionary sermon on Sunday.

LAFAYETTE THOMAS, Chairman.

Report received and adopted.

On motion the following were elected as the executive committee: J. M. Malphous, W. H. Pinholster, and C. M. Priest, together with the moderator, clerk and treasurer.

Report of missionary discussed by Brother Joseph Thomas, Elders J. C. Porter and J. J. Clark.

Executive committee submitted a report marked "J" and adopted. The treasurer reported a report marked "L" and adopted.

Report on Sunday schools marked "K," discussed by Joseph Thomas, Elder J. C. Porter and J. M. Johns. Adopted.

The Sardis church having been destroyed by the late disastrous storm, on motion, the churches of this association are requested by this body to lay the matter before their churches for help to rebuild, and any funds raised for such purposes be sent to the union.

J. M. Johns offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the hearty thanks of this church and and is hereby tendered to the members of this church and to the citizens of this community for their kind hospitality and welcome. Adopted.

It was moved that the treasurer pay the clerk the same amount as last year for printing the minutes, \$18; for postage and for services for getting them up, \$12.

11:30 a.m. Elder J. C. Porter after reading John vi, led in prayer, preached the missionary sermon. Collection was taken up for supplying the Baptist Witness to the aged ministers of this association. Amount collected \$3.55. Prayer led by Elder L. W. Kickliter. On motion, adjourned to meet with the Evergreen church on Friday before the fourth Sunday in October, 1897.

L. W. KICKLITER, Moderator.

J. M. JOHNS, Clerk.

REPORT A.

We, your committee on education, beg leave to report, That the time is now moving forward in the cause of education with such rapidity that it will very soon be in the past for the unlearned to successfully lead and guide the flocks. The Lord calls a man to preach. He also gives the talent which, by studious application, will soon prepare him for his position. And for the assistance of such we recommend the John B. Stetson University and the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, and urge of our young preachers to attend both.

Respectfully submitted,

J. M. JOHNS.

REPORT B.

We, your committee of missions beg leave to submit the following: That the mission cause is the cause of Christ and is a positive command that the Gospel of Christ shall be preached in all the world for a witness that Christ is the only Savior whereby man can be saved, therefore we urge the great necessity of our association to be diligent in the cause of this work not only in our own destitution but aid in home and foreign work. We find that the mission work in our own field has been blessed the present year, and would urge our executive committee to employ a missionary at once and place in the field, and the churches to sustain their efforts. The Mormons were making inroads in our field but were met and repulsed by your missionary this year, therefore it is well to keep the lines well guard-

ed, for the field bids fair for many precious sheaves if properly cultivated. May God give us all more zeal for mission work.

Respectfully Submitted.

JESSE REDDISH.

J. J. CLARK, Chairman.

REPORT C.

We, your committee on temperance beg leave to report as follows: We recommend that our churches take some action to prevent their members from indulging in the evil habit of drinking intoxicating liquors, and cooperate with all worthy societies in banishing the destroying monster from their communities.

A. CROSBY.

S. B. CASON.

JASPER BROWN.

REPORT D.

Your committee on letters and queries report that we find no queries sent up from the churches. But we find general good news of harmony prevailing in the churches, and that God has wonderfully blessed us as a people and as worshippers of his great name. Great good has been done in the bounds of our association by the faithful ambassadors of Christ. We, your committee, present this as our report.

C. F. PARKER.

ANDREW CROSBY.

THOMAS CONWAY.

REPORT E.

We, your committee on publications, beg leave to report that, first, we urge upon all Baptists to read the Bible; second, to compare everything they read with the Bible. We recommend all baptists to read J. M. Pendleton's work on the distinctive principles of the Baptist, as the minds and characters of the people, especially the young, are moulded and shaped for weal or woe in proportion to the literature read and digested by the mind. Therefore we would most earnestly recommend the placing in the reach of our young people the publications of our own denomination, such as the Florida Baptist Witness, the standard bearer of our denomination for the state, also the

Home and Foreign Mission Journal, that the churches may be thoroughly acquainted with the work of our denomination throughout the world. We also recommend and endorse the liberal use of the publications of the Sunday school of the Southern Baptist Convention and also the Sunday school literature of the American Baptist Publication Society as sound and safe for information.

D. J. BIRD.

THOMAS CASON.

JOSEPH THOMAS.

REPORT F.

Your committee on deceased ministers and deacons beg leave to report as follows: While the Lord has seen fit to spare us all our ministers for his future work, He has claimed and taken from among us our aged and beloved Brother J. W. F. Prevatt, deacon of the Kingsley Lake church. While we mourn his loss yet it is his gain. Respectfully submitted.

JESSE REDDISH.

REPORT OF MISSIONARY,—G

Dear Brethren of the New River Association: The time has come that I should render an account of my stewardship as your missionary. I entered the field immediately after my appointment and found the people anxious for the gospel. In some places I found the Mormons were making inroads with their spurious doctrines, and I met them at one of their meetings and after they dismissed I announced that now I would preach of the true Gospel of Jesus Christ, our Savior and only means of salvation. And soon afterward their missionaries left our bounds. And I hope their doctrine will have no further influence. But, brethren, the field is an important one and now ripe for the harvest. I think the gospel has been preached to about all of our destitute this year. The prospect is good for the organization of two more good self-sustaining churches—one at Lawtey and one on the south prong of the St. Mary's. Number of days on work, excluding Sundays, 62. Traveled 969 miles. Preached 92 sermons. Delivered 12 lectures. Baptized 38. Restored 5. Received by letter 16. Total 59.

Funds received—Executive committee, \$75; Sardinia church, \$8.50; Lawtey congregation, \$7.21; collected on

the field, \$3.50; from Brother Joseph Thomas on missions, \$8; total received, \$102.20. I received from Brother Joseph Thomas \$10, not on salary, but as an extra help given in the name of the Lord "The Lord loveth a cheerful giver." May the Lord bless the work of this association. All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. J. CLARK, Missionary.

REPORT H.

We, your committee on Sunday schools, beg to submit the following report: We find by the reports sent up by the churches to this association that there is very little interest manifested in Sunday school work in our bounds, which is very discouraging. Still, we have a few independent sections with devoted Christians, who are doing what they can to carry on this noble work, but we are sorry to say that a great many professed Christians take little or no interest in the work. We believe that the time has come when all of God's people are commanded to go forward in the matter of training the young for God. We think every church should sustain a Sunday school. We would urge the pastors to encourage their churches in this work. Respectfully submitted.

D. L. PHILLIPS.

REPORT I.

The executive committee beg leave to make the following report: At the union in December we employed Elder J. J. Clark as our missionary for this year, for which service we agreed to pay him all we could, and we regret that the amount has been so small for the amount of work done, for which we refer you to his report. His work has been greatly blessed during the year. Your committee feel encouraged with the prospects before them if we can supply the field with a missionary. This we can do provided the churches will sustain us with funds. We urge the churches to take up collections for missions and send to the unions, and earnestly request the pastors to bring the matter before their churches quarterly. Respectfully submitted.

L. W. KICKLITER, Chairman.

J. M. JOHNS, Clerk.

Ministers' Directory.

L. W. Kickliter.....	Starke
Robert Keith.....	Starke
Wm. F. Malphurs.....	Starke
D. L. Phillips.....	Theresa
C. F. Parker.....	LaCrosse
A. Crosby.....	Ziff
J. J. Clark.....	Lawtey
Samuel Godwin.....	Long Branch

Licentiates.

N. J. Barry.....	Worthington
James Baxter.....	Starke
A. J. Pinholster.....	Ziff
J. D. Crosby.....	Ziff

Statistics of New River Association.

Churches and Pastors.		Clerks and Post Offices.	
Antioch	R. B. Moseley	N. W. Malphurs, LaCrosse.	977
Bethel	L. W. Kichler	L. W. Kichler	76
Bradford	D. L. Phillips	N. W. Malphurs, LaCrosse.	54
China Grove	D. L. Phillips	L. W. Kichler	19
Deedan	J. H. Harris, LaCrosse.	H. O. Barry, LaCrosse.	48
Evergreen	A. Crosby	M. W. Gims	16
Fellowship	Wm. F. Malphurs	J. E. J. Wainright, Starke	23
Hope	Wm. F. Malphurs	J. E. J. Wainright, Starke	12
Kingsley Lake	L. W. Kichler	Joel Brown, New River	12
Long Branch	P. M. Riggs	P. M. Moore, Theresa	12
Mount Zion	Samuel Godwin	E. L. Willkerson, Highland	12
North Pleasant Grove	Wm. F. Malphurs	G. W. Haysler, Baldwin	12
New Home	Z. A. Crumpton	J. M. Malphurs, LaCrosse	12
Pilgrims Rest	Wm. F. Malphurs	C. Poppell, New River	12
Santa Fe Pond	G. W. S. Ware	H. L. Cannon, Long Branch	12
Sampson	Wm. F. Malphurs	H. L. Cannon, Highland	12
Starke	A. Crosby	Seborn Brown, Sampson	12
Totals		J. M. Johns, Starke	115

Financial Report of the New River Association.

Churches		Expenditures.		Missions.	
Antioch	\$100.00	\$3.00	\$105.00	\$1.50	\$1.50
Bethel	37.50	3.00	40.50	1.50	1.50
Bradford					
Bradford Sunday School		6.48			
China Grove					
China Grove Sunday School		3.00			
Deedan		7.00			
Evergreen	\$8.47	1.00	8.47		
Fellowship		1.00			
Hope		5.00			
Kingsley Lake		5.00			
Long Branch		1.24			
Mount Zion		1.24			
North Pleasant Grove		150.00			
New River		2.50			
Pilgrims Rest		2.50			
Santa Fe Pond		18.00			
Sampson		1.50			
Starke		401.50			
Totals		\$557.22		\$801.19	
Current Expenses					
Pastor's Salary					
On Building					
Evangelist					
Sunday Schools					
Totals					
Foreign					
Aged Ministers					
Associational (sent to unions)					
Associational (sent to association)					
Minutes					
Totals					

Treasurer's Report.

<p>Amount on hand last report..... \$39 61</p> <p>Clerk received and put in minutes..... 2 25</p> <p>Amounts sent unions..... 68 74</p> <p>Collected at unions..... 18 11</p> <p>Sent to association..... 42 20</p> <p>Missionary collected on field..... 18 11</p> <p>Association collection..... 3 55</p>	<p>Paid for minutes of 1895 (in old minutes)..... 39 61</p> <p>Paid N. T. King, 1895 (in old minutes)..... 5 00</p> <p>Paid for Record Book..... 1 65</p> <p>Paid Elder J. J. Clark, missionary..... \$25 00</p> <p>Paid, order J. J. Clark, to Pinholster..... 50 00</p> <p>Paid Sardis church to missionary..... 8 50</p> <p>Paid collected on field.. 18 71- 102 21</p> <p>Paid clerk for postage, and minutes of 1896..... 12 00</p> <p>Paid clerk for printing minutes of 1896..... 18 00</p> <p>Paid clerk for postage printing programs..... 6 00</p> <p>Paid association collection..... 3 55</p> <p>Amount on hand to balance.... 14 76</p>
<p>To cash to balance on hand..... 14 76</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>\$193 17</u></p>	

BIBLE FUNDS.

<p>To cash on last report..... \$6 25</p> <p>To cash from clerk..... 2 50</p> <p>By cash for literature..... \$6 00</p> <p>By cash for express on literature..... 80</p> <p>Amount on hand to balance 1 95</p>	<p>To books on hand last report \$3 15</p> <p>To literature bought this year 6 00</p> <p>By distributed to ministers \$8 25</p> <p>By donation..... 30</p> <p>By books and tracts with clerk..... 60</p>
<p>To cash on hand to balance..... \$8 75 \$8 75</p> <p>..... 1 95</p>	<p>To books and tracts on hand..... \$9 15 \$9 15</p> <p>..... 60</p>

As the ministers have not reported in full, I do not know the amount donated and on hand.
Respectfully submitted.

R. F. LEWIS, Treasurer.