

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

TENTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

St. Johns River Association,

HELD WITH

THE EVERGREEN BAPTIST CHURCH,

CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA,

October 15, 16 and 17 1887.

OFFICERS:

B. W. BECKS, MODERATOR,.....PALATKA, FLA.
J. M. FRASER, CLERK,.....PICOLATA, FLA.
PERRY McCULLAR, TREASURER.....FEDERAL POINT, FLA.

ATLANTA, GEORGIA:
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MINUTES.

FIRST DAY.

THE EVERGREEN CHURCH, October 15, 1887.

The St. Johns River Association met with the Evergreen Church, Ocala county Fla., October 15, at 11 o'clock Saturday. The introductory sermon was preached by Rev. L. W. Kickliter. After which the congregation was dismissed, and a bountiful supply of food for the bodies was served on the grounds.

2:20 O'CLOCK, P. M.

The former Moderator read a psalm. Prayer by Rev. J. J. W. Place. The body was then called to order.

The Clerk not being present, E. D. Prevatt was chosen Clerk *pro tem*. Letters were called for and read, and names of delegates enrolled as follows:

Paran—S. E. Timmons, M. Padgett, M. Seigler.
Gadara—V. J. Prevatt, O. M. Priest.
Spring Grove—O. J. Dillard.
Osceola—Wm. Ashton, R. C. Ashton.
Evergreen—A. Geiger, E. W. Geiger.
Penial—B. W. Becks, J. M. Canon.
Shiloh—L. W. Moses, F. M. Woods.
Hickory Grove—J. Wingate, J. R. Brooker.
Decoy—J. M. Fraser, H. L. Silcox.
Beaula—B. F. Shook.
Mount Olive—Thos. McCullar, Henry McCullar.
First Church of Palatka—By letter.

Petitionary letters were called for. A letter was presented by Bro. H. Minton from the Hebron Baptist Church, Etomiah, Putnam county.

On motion, the church was received, and the names of messengers enrolled—H. Minton, O. L. Strickland—and then went into permanent organization.

On motion, the rules were suspended, and Rev. B. W. Becks was chosen Moderator, and J. M. Fraser, Clerk.

Correspondents from other associations were invited to seats, at which Bros. G. W. Riles, R. S. Hogarth and E. W. Smith presented themselves from the Santa Fe River Association; Rev. L. W. Kickliter from the New River Association, and Rev. J. W. Place, visitor from San Matteo church, to which the Moderator extended the hand of welcome.

Appointment of Committees:

On Arrangements for Service—A. Geiger, E. W. Geiger, J. Wingate.

On Religious Literature—Rev. J. J. W. Place, S. E. Timmons and J. C. Osteen.

On Missions—Rev. D. W. Glisson, V. J. Prevatt and J. M. Smith.

On Sunday Schools—S. E. Timmons, M. Seigler, H. Minton.

On Nominations—A. Geiger, Wm. Ashton, J. R. Brooker.

On Temperance—J. M. Fraser, J. M. Canon, D. W. Glisson.

On Finance—Thos. McCullar, H. Minton, S. E. Timmons.

On Women's Work—Rev. D. W. Glisson, Rev. J. J. W. Place and L. W. Mires.

On Deceased Ministers and Deacons—E. W. Geiger, F. M. Woods and Henry McCullar.

On motion, adjourned until after night services.

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SECOND DAY.

AUGUST 16.

A goodly number were in at 10 a. m. Devotional exercises for thirty minutes, conducted by Bro. G. W. Riles.

11 O'CLOCK A. M.

The missionary sermon by Rev. B. W. Becks. Text—Mark xvi. 15, 16, after which a collection was taken, amounting to \$10.46. The congregation was then dismissed.

A bountiful repast was served on the grounds, and several baskets were filled after all had eaten.

2 O'CLOCK P. M.

The congregation were again entertained by Rev. J. J. W. Place. Text—Prov. xxii. 6, 7. In connection with the subject of higher education, the speaker knew just how to handle the subject. He talked up very favorably our Deland University, at Deland, Fla.

7 O'CLOCK P. M.

Preaching by Rev. D. W. Glisson, after which a special collection was taken for Rev. E. B. Timmons, amounting to \$6.00.

THIRD DAY.

MONDAY, AUGUST 17.

The body in order. The former proceedings were read and corrected. Invitations to correspondents were renewed.

Rev. B. R. Mosely received the hand of welcome from the Santa Fe River Association.

The Clerk presented and read a letter from the Newark Church, with contributions.

DECEASED MINISTERS AND DEACONS.

The Committee on Deceased Ministers and Deacons report as follows:

That they have carefully considered the matter, and find that God has spared the lives of all our ministers and deacons another year, for which we cannot be too thankful to our Heavenly Father for so preserving the lives of all our ministers and deacons, the only one that hath power to give life or take it. E. W. GEIGER, Chairman.

Approved.

MISSIONS.

Report on missions received.

In view of the command to go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature, we think yet that the demand for the gospel is equally as much needed at the present day as it has been in the past, from the fact that our Lord has given us the example, that we should observe his great command, and he has promised to be with us always, even to the end of the world. Seeing the necessity of the gospel being preached in our land, we recommend that every effort may be put forth in the cause of missions. We further recommend that all the churches in the Association take a deep interest in this grand movement for the spread of the gospel throughout the universe, not keeping it at our own doors only, and leave others to perish. So we pray the blessings of God upon the cause of missions. D. W. GLISSON, Chairman.

Adopted.

NOMINATIONS.

Committee on Nominations reported as follows:

Your committee recommend that the next Association be held with the Hickory Grove Church, Clay county. Also that Rev. B. W. Becks preach the introductory sermon and Rev. A. J. Mosely preach the missionary sermon on Sunday. A. GEIGER, Chairman.

Adopted.

WOMEN'S WORK.

The Committee on Women's Work report as follows:

It is no part of a Christian spirit to overlook or to reject any legitimate aid in our great work of extending the Master's kingdom on earth. This proposition is so self-evident, that it needs no demonstration. We all know with what enthusiasm and with what efficiency women work in any cause which they have at heart when she has an opportunity. The world's history is full of instances of great obstacles by the apparently weak efforts of women. And the history of the growth and progress of the cause of Christ on earth demonstrates the incalculable value of women in the State of Florida. Last year shows what a power there is lying almost neglected, and by their efforts money has been raised by the women, noble mission work, to aid in furtherance of the cause. So we yet think women's work a great institution. God's blessings are rich toward them. Accept them in view of the fact. All are able to do something for God's cause. We recommend that the ministers and membership of all churches of the Baptists of Florida to help them in this noble work. D. W. GLISSON, Chairman.

Adopted.

RELIGIOUS LITERATURE.

The Committee on Religious Literature report as follows:

We would recommend that, whereas, the Florida Witness is the most natural and convenient medium through which to transmit and obtain information from the Baptist churches of the State of Florida, and whereas, the publication of a denominational paper in our State is to encourage every other religious work in our midst, therefore we recommend that every family represented in our large brotherhood of Baptists in the State of Florida should take a copy of the Florida Witness. J. J. W. PLACE, Chairman.

The Board reports as follows: Upon entering into the duties of our office, we found the Association burthened with a debt of \$149.94 due to the Missionary for the year just closed. Under these embarrassing circumstances your Board thought it not only imprudent but decidedly wrong to put out a missionary until this debt, or at least the greater part, was paid. We sent several appeals to the churches for money. Some of them responded promptly and liberally, some slowly and sparingly, while others failed to respond at all. The result is, we are still in debt for amount collected during the year. See Treasurer's report.

Owing to the above facts, it is our painful duty to report to your body the fact that there has been no missionary out this year, yet the Macedonian cry, come over and help us, has come up from many parts of our territorial bounds.

Dear brethren, are we worthy of the name we bear? Are we Missionary Baptists? We have a membership, according to last year's statistics, of 558. This, at the low estimate of 50 cents per member, would give us \$279.00. How many of us spend dollars for things we could do without, where we give dimes to the Lord. Brethren, these things ought not so

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to be. Let us say by the help of the good Master, it shall not be so again.

J. WINGATE,
J. C. STRICKLAND.

B. W. BECKS, Chairman.
P. McCOLLAR, Secretary.
N. PRESLEY, Treasurer.

The Treasurer asked for time to get up his report. On motion two weeks were given him.

Committee on Temperance report as follows: The cause of Temperance is the cause of Christ, the cause of the nation, of our country and our homes; and while we believe the Sunday-school is a nursery, as it were, to train, prune and prepare the children for the Church and Christ, Temperance is no less a fort where the young men and boys are kept from the chief vice and curse of the land, and where they may be prepared for usefulness to the country and soldiers of the Cross. We have good reasons to take new courage and zeal from what has been accomplished in this great and glorious cause. Yet why be discouraged, when we feel sure that God is with us. To Him be all the praise.

We would recommend that the friends of Temperance organize themselves thoroughly, and work together if they would accomplish the rich results in store for them.

We feel thankful that we live under laws favoring Temperance, and let us see to it that we are represented by men that will favor such measures as will secure to us laws that will protect us from this demon evil.

J. M. FRASER, Chairman.

On motion, it was resolved to pay Rev. D. W. Glisson 10 per cent. interest on the amount due him for services as Missionary on the field.

On motion, the following brethren were elected on the Board for the ensuing year: Revs. B. W. Becks, J. Wingate, P. McCullar, E. D. Prevatt and Wm. Ashton.

The following brethren were appointed delegates to the Baptist State Convention: P. McCullar, D. W. Glisson, B. W. Becks, J. Wingate, Aaron Geiger, Sr., Thomas Hind, Joseph Brooker, L. N. Richardson, S. E. Timmons, E. D. Prevatt.

Correspondent to the Santa Fe River Association—S. E. Timmons.

Correspondents to the Wikiva Association—Revs. B. W. Becks and O. J. Dillard.

Correspondents to the New River Association—Brethren R. Ward, M. Seigler and J. Wingate.

On motion, it was resolved that the Association pay the traveling expenses of the Missionary Board to and from their meetings.

On motion, it was resolved that the Clerk be paid \$10.00 for his services, and that he have 300 copies of the minutes printed, and distribute the same among the several churches of the Association.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

Committee on Sunday schools report as follows:

We have twelve schools reported within the bounds of our Association. This, however, may not be all, as some of the churches have made no report. We are pleased to state that our people are realizing the fact that the Sabbath school is a potent means in the hands of the Christian for the conversion of sinners and the proper training of the children. We regret, however, to report that some of the churches seem to be indifferent as to the Gospel truths taught in these schools; and we recommend that our churches use Baptist helps and Baptist periodicals with the Bible in their schools. Remember that a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump.

S. E. TIMMONS, Chairman.

RESOLUTION OF THANKS.

Resolved, That we tender our thanks to the Evergreen Church and community for the generous entertainment and hospitality given us during the meeting; also to Mr. O. A. Budington, Superintendent of the Western Railroad, for reduced rates over that road.

We would say of the good ladies of the church and community, that they done more than could be expected of them, for, notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, they were present with many good things for the inner man. They may have the Association at Evergreen again when they ask for it.

RESOLUTION BY BRO. S. E. TIMMONS.

Resolved, That we change the time of meeting of the Association from Saturday to Wednesday before the third Sunday in October. Amended by Bro. Wingate, to lay the question over until the next meeting of the body.

Adopted as amended.

LADIES' MISSION SOCIETIES.

There were messengers from different societies present, but as the officers of the Union were not present, they held no meeting. However, the following report was forwarded to me:

Amount raised and sent in for missions:

Osceola Society.....	\$12 00
Como ".....	7 64
Penial ".....	3 19
Paran ".....	31 55
Amount sent to Association from different societies.....	1 75

The officers of the Union will remain that was elected last year.

FINANCIAL REPORT.

ST. JOHNS RIVER ASSOCIATION.

CHURCHES.	CASH SENT TO ASSOCIATION.						Total.
	Minutes.	General Purposes.	Associational Mission.	State Mission.	Home Mission.	Foreign Mission.	
Evergreen			12 00				2 00
Decoy			12 00				2 00
Gadarrsh			4 00				4 00
Penial	1 50		2 00				3 50
Sardis	1 00						1 00
Hickory Grove	1 00		2 81				3 81
Hebron	30		1 00		1 00	1 00	3 30
Spring Grove.			3 00				3 00
Shiloh			1 66				1 66
Mount Olive			1 50				1 50
1st Church, Palatka			4 05	2 00			6 05
Paran			6 04				6 04
Beulah			2 30				2 30
Norwalk	50				3 00		3 50
Sunday collection			10 46				10 46
Monday collection			16 00				16 00
	\$ 4 50		\$ 59 12	\$ 2 00	\$ 1 00	\$ 1 00	\$ 70 82
Carre in late:							
Spring Garden			1 25				
Seville			4 75				
	\$ 4 50		\$ 65 12	\$ 2 00	\$ 4 00	\$ 1 00	\$ 76 62

SUNDAY-SCHOOL STATISTICS.

NAME.	SUPERINTENDENTS.	POST-OFFICES.	Officers.	Teachers.	Scholars.	Total
Norwalk.....	G. W. Pearce.....	Syracuse, Fla.....	1	4	18	23
Hebron.....		Etonia, Fla.....				
Palatka, two....	P. F. Peck, E. H. Padgett	Palatka, Fla.....	12	110	122	
Hickory Grove....		Green Cove Springs				
West Tocoi.....	Isaac Dyess.....	Bostwick.....	1	2	16	19
Evergreen.....	E. W. Geiger.....	Wilderness.....				
Spring Grove....	F. D. Harper.....	Emporia.....	8	25	33	
Penial.....	D. W. Hartsock.....	Palatka.....	9	79	88	
Sardis.....	F. T. Buchanan.....	Holister.....			18	
Mount Olive....	P. McCullar.....	Federal Point.....				
Paran, two.....	S. E. Timmons.....	Putnam Hall.....	6	40	46	
Seville.....	G. W. Rich.....	Seville.....	7	43	50	
Osceola.....	R. L. Ashton.....	Picolata.....	5	30	35	
			2	53	361	434

LIST OF ORDAINED MINISTERS.

E. B. Timmons, Putnam Hall, Fla.	C. A. Koger, Mount Royal, Fla.
B. W. Becks, Palatka, Fla.	D. W. Glisson, Green Cove Springs, Fla.
J. W. Thomas, Palatka, Fla.	Joseph Brook, Green Cove Springs, Fla.
M. L. Dyers, Holister, Fla.	
C. C. Burrows, Green Cove Springs Fla.	

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Introductory sermon.
2. Association called to order.
3. Read letter and enrolled delegates.
4. Petitionary letters called for.
5. Election of officers.
6. Invite visiting brethren to seats.
7. Call for letters of correspondence.
8. Appointment of committees.
9. Circular letter called for.
10. Reports of standing and other committees.
11. Miscellaneous business.
12. Adjournment.