MINUTES

OF THE

St. Johns River Baptist Association,

HELD WITH

PARAN CHURCH,

PUTNAM COUNTY, FLORIDA, January 9th, 10th, and 11th, 1889.

S. E.	TIMMONS,	 	 ********	Moderator

JOHN B. STETSON UNIVERSITY
DeLAND :- FLORIDA

ATLANTA, GRORGIA.

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1880.

MINUTES.

FIRST DAY.

PARAN CHURCH, January 9th, 1889.

The St. Johns River Association convened with the Paran Church, Putnam county, Fla., January 9th, at 11 o'clock A. M., on Wednesday.

The Introductory Sermon was preached by Rev. H. M.

King

After which an intermission was given, and a bountiful repast was served on the ground by the hospitable ladies of Paran vicinity.

2 o'clock P. M.

After singing, the body re-assembled, and the former officers not being present, S. E. Timmons was elected Moderator pro tem., and E. D. Prevatt, Secretary pro tem.

Letters were called for and read, and names of messengers

enrolled, as follows:

Sardis—J. C. Osteen. Decoy—Rev. M. L. Dyess.

Gadara-V. I. Prevatt, C. M. Priest.

Peniel-J. M. Cannon.

Paran-S. E. Timmons, J. P. Wall, W. J. Green.

Hebron-J. C. Strickland, T. M. Mallett.

Spring Garden-L. W. Odum.

Evergreen-E. W. Geiger, J. Holden.

Petitionary letters were called for, and letters were presented by D. Bohannan, from Providence Baptist Church, Putnam county, Fla., and H. M. King, of St. Augustine Baptist Church, St. Johns county, Fla.

On motion, the churches were received, and the names of their messengers enrolled: J. T. Minton, D. Bohannan, of the Providence Church; H. M. King, T. F. Corbett and G.

M. Caldwell.

On motion, rules were suspended, and the temporary organ-

ization made permanent.

Correspondents from other Associations were invited to seats, at which brothers Dr. L. J. Burton, Geo. Riles, T. W. Thompson, H. J. Fowler and our State Missionary, Rev. G.

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W. Hall, presented themselves from the Santa Fe River Association, and B. F. Fortner, of the New River Association, to which the Moderator extended the hand of welcome. On motion, adjourned until after night services.

The body in order. Appointment of committees:

On Arrangements for Service—M. Seigler, B. Padgett, C. M. Priest.

On Religious Literature—J. C. Strickland, J. T. Minton, T. M. Mallett.

On Missions—J. P. Wall, E. W. Geiger, V. I. Prevatt.

On Sunday-Schools—E. W. Geiger, M. L. Dyess, L. W. Odum.

On Nominations—C. M. Priest, J. M. Cannon, D. Bohannan.

On Temperance-W. J. Green, H. M. King, J. C. Osteen.

On Finance-V. I. Prevatt, J. M. Cannon.

On Woman's Work-C. M. Priest, J. C. Strickland.

On Deceased Ministers and Deacons—H. M. King, M. L. Dyess, E. W. Geiger.

On motion, adjourned to 9:30 A. M.

SECOND DAY.

JANUARY 10TH.

Met pursuant to adjournment and, after prayer by Dr. L.

J. Burton, the body was called to order.

Then Rev. H. M. King, of St. Augustine, presented to the Association, in a forcible and sympathetic manner, the utmost importance of the denomination to have and maintain a Baptist Church in that city. His potent appeal touched the heart of the audience as the list will demonstrate: M. Seigler, \$10.00; G. W. Hall, \$10.00; Dr. L. J. Burton, \$10.00; S. E. Timmons, \$5.00; L. W. Odum, \$5.00; C. M. Priest, \$5.00; J. A. Mosely, \$5.00; E. D. Prevatt, \$2.00; T. W. Thompson, \$2.50; W. J. Green, \$1.00; J. Riles, \$1.00; S. Holloway, \$2.50; S. L. Ward, \$1.00; Miss M. J. Padgett, \$1.00; Master Bobbie Mosely, \$1.00; Geo. S. Roberts, \$2.00; L. G. Sibley, \$1.00; J. P. Wall, \$2.00; J. E. Cauthen, \$1.00; L. E. Timmons, \$1.00; B. P. Wall, \$1.00; T. J. Rogers, \$1.00; J. C. Strickland, \$2.50; Isaac Rountree, \$1.00; Carrie Green, 50 cents; M. L. Dyess, \$2.50; J. T. Minton, \$1.00.

11:00 A. M.: The Missionary Sermon, by Rev. J. A. Mosely. Text: Matt. 28:19 and 20; Mark, 16:15:16; Luke, 19:10, after which a collection was taken up amounting to \$5.71.

An intermission given and nourishment for the inner man served.

7 P. M. Preaching by Rev. H. M. King, which was very instructive and comforting.

THIRD DAY.

FRIDAY, January 11th.

Body in order. Proceedings read and approved.

REPORTS.

Deceased Ministers and Deacons.

We, your Committee on Obituaries, beg leave to report. There has been but one death among the ministers, and

none among the deacons, during the past year.

Brother E. B. Timmons died on the twenty-second day of August, 1888, aged 76 years, two months and one day. Brother Timmons was a pioneer minister in Florida, and gave his life to the work of the Master, and died full of honorable years and lively hope, leaving as a heritage to his brethren an example of piety and zeal worthy of our emulation.

Signed: H. M. King, E. W. Geiger, M. L. Dyess

Missions.

Report on missions received.

Missions is a subject that should not only be discussed, but practiced by every one who desires the welfare of their fellow-man. All who read the Bible will then find the evi-

dence of their Christian duty in this matter.

Your committee rejoices with thanks to God, that the cause has not been neglected within the bounds of our Association in the past, and we pray him to put it into the hearts of his creatures to renew with greater earnestness their efforts for the spread of his blessed gospel in the future than in the past. We recommend that the different churches take this subject into serious consideration, and try by the help of God to come up to their full measure of duty in this matter, and we pray the Blessed One, who is ever ready to answer prayer, to aid and assist you.

J. P. WALL, Chairman.

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Nominations.

We, your Committee on Nominations, beg leave to submit the following: Your committee recommend that the next Association be held with the Beulah Church, Putnam county, Florida, and as there are no messengers present from that church, your committee append the following: Should Beulah Church not accept, we authorize the Executive Board to locate the next session of the body, also, that Rev. D. W. Glisson preach the Introductory Sermon, and Rev. H. M. King, the Missionary Sermon.

Signed: C. M. Priest, J. M. Cannon, D. Bohannan.

Adopted.

Woman's Work.

Your Committee on Woman's Work report as follows: The Christian woman is pre-eminently qualified to work for Christ. Her sphere embraces the homes of all human beings, and her work is co-relative with life. Beginning in the home circle, while administering to the wants, and soothing the sorrows of the children, and impress their tender minds with the gospel truths, and kindly points them to their Savior, and her gentle, restraining influence is felt by brother, father and husband, and are often the means of reclaiming them from vice, and winning them to the Savior. In the Sabbath-schools, and all other religious institutions, she is a tower of strength, and her prayers and alms and Christian graces are among the brightest and most potent pillars in the churches of Jesus Christ. Then, inspired by the Savior's love, she enters heart and soul into the mission field, and carries the blessed light of the gospel to the homes and hearts of those living in the dark and destitute places of our own and heathen lands.

The thoughtful reader of the New Testament is impressed by what women have done, and the prominence given to their work in the sacred records of the Word of God. It was to a woman that the angel of the Lord first announced

that a Savior would be born.

It was to a woman that our Savior revealed himself as the Messiah. A woman was the first to carry the good news of salvation to the city of Samaria. It was of a woman that Jesus said, "She hath done what she could." It was women that ministered to the Savior of their substance, when He was here on earth. Women were the first at the tomb the morning that Jesus arose from the dead. It was a woman that Jesus first showed himself to after his resurrection. A woman assisted her husband in teaching the great Apollus the way of God more perfectly.

Mention is made in several of the epistles of Paul of women giving assistance to the apostles in their work among the churches. With all this information before us, we should be deeply interested in helping our sisters engage in the blessed work, and perform the important service that the Savior would have them do for him.

Therefore, we would urge the necessity of a live, vigorous Ladies' Missionary Society in every church in the bounds of

this Association.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

C. M. Priest, Chairman.

Adopted.

Religious Literature,

Your Committee on Religious Literature report as follows: Realizing the fact that literature sways a potent scepter over the human mind, we are profoundly impressed with the importance of the true character of the literature issued and disseminated by the Baptists of our land, and believing that the literature of the Baptists, including the Bible, is the only religious literature entirely free from error. We earnestly recommend to the members of this Association and the entire Baptist brotherhood that we encourage the circulation of reliable Baptist periodicals and religious books for general reading, and we particularly recommend the circulation of the Florida Baptist Witness, and Kind Words, and our home Sabbath-school helps for use in our Sabbath-schools.

J. C. STRICKLAND, Chairman.

Adopted.

For information as to why the Board has not incorporated into the Minutes their report, was caused from the confusion in determining and permanently locating the Association. The brethren are all well aware of the strict quarantine regulations which first caused a postponement of the Association and, second, the yellow-fever epidemic which was reported to have been in Green Cove Springs, to which Hickory Grove Church was adjacent, and the earnest appeals of one of Hickory Groves' members, Rev. Joseph Brooker. The advisability of moving the meeting of Association from Hickory Grove Church to Paran Church, Putnam county, was submitted to the Union Meeting, which was in session at Hebron Baptist Church, and there not being present a quorum of the Executive Board, the Union deemed it advisable upon the statement given by J. Brooker, to change time and place of the Association, from which cause quite a number of the churches were not represented, nor was the Executive Board present to formulate a report. Also, inasmuch as there was not a full representation of the churches,

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the statistical report will be devoid of the information so much desired by the brotherhood, also, the Financial Report will be far behind in contributions, which will cause the poor missionary of the Cross to feel despondent. Let us try to be more united, brethren.—Secretary.

Sunday-Schools.

Committee on Sunday-schools report as follows: "We, the committee, feel that there is a greater interest being manifested among the various churches of the Association than heretofore, but viewing the great importance of training the young in the gospel truths, we, the committee, feel that there should be more zeal manifested in this great work among the brethren. We, the committee, think that a good live Sabbath-school in each church is aiding much to the cause of Christ. Your committee recommend that each school patronize Kind Words Series, as we are satisfied that its soundness has never been questioned. We earnestly entreat each church and neighborhood to take a live interest in this great work, and never succumb to the subtle influence of Satan and his emissaries, which are ever on the alert to decoy the young from the paths of duty. We hope the brethren may not become despondent until they get all the children engaged in this noble work as Christians should be a light to their pathway.

Respectfully submitted. E. W. GEIGER, Chairman.

Temperance.

Committee on Temperance report as follows:

We, your Committee on Temperance, beg leave to report that—

WHEREAS, the evils of intemperance are of the greatest detriment to the peace and morality of the churches, and

WHEREAS, many church-members are so forgetful of the dignity and responsibility of their Christian standing and the honor of the churches as to frequent bar rooms, and often to get under the influence of alcohol, and

Whereas, the churches often have to bear the blame of of such unbecoming conduct upon the part of such members: Therefore,

Resolved, That we recommend to the churches of this Association, and to the brotherhood at large, that all drinking of liquor as a beverage or visiting bar-rooms shall be deemed sufficient cause for church action and expulsion.

Signed: W. J. Green, H. M. King, J. C. Osteen.

On motion, the present Executive Board was re-elected for the ensuing year.

On motion, Rev. H. M. King was elected as messenger to

the Southern Baptist Convention, which convenes at Memphis, Tennessee.

The following brethren were appointed messengers to the Baptist State Convention at Ocala: Rev. J. A. Mosely, Rev. H. M. King, Rev. B. W. Becks, P. McCullar, E. H. Padgett, Miss Minnie Seigler, E. D. Prevatt.

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.

On motion, the matter of changing the time of the meeting of the Association was deferred until the next meeting.

Resolution of Thanks.

Resolved, That we tender our thanks to the Paran Church and community for their generous entertainment given us during the meeting, and we would say that the affable, amicable and amiable ladies of Paran deserve great credit for the grand display of such nice edibles, furnished on such short notice, and we hope, ere long, Paran may be the recipient of another Association.—Secretary.

Finance.

Report of Committee on Finance is as follows: Your committee beg leave to say, inasmuch as the Treasurer and his books are not present, can only report from the churches represented, which are as follows:

Spring Garden	2 00
Peniel	
Decoy	1 00
Providence	2 95
Sardis	. 75
St. Augustine	1 00
Paron.	3 50
Hebron	2 17
Evergreen	2 21
Gadara	4 45
Missionary Collection	5 71

Sung "Sweet By-and-Bye." Took the parting hand.

Prayer by Rev. H. M. King.

Adjourned to meet with Beulah Church, Putnam county, Florida, Saturday before the third Sunday in October, 1889. S. E. Timmons, Moderator.

E. D. PREVATT, Secretary. P. McCullar, Treasurer.

STATISTICS OF THE CHURCHES FOR 1888.

CHURCHES.	POST-OFFICES.	PASTORS.	CLERKS.	DELEGATES.	Baptized. Rec'ed by Letter. Dismissed by Let'r Restored. Excluded. Dead.
Gadara Ancient City Church Providence Spring Garden \ Peniel \ Hebron \ Evergreen \ Paron \ Sardis \ Decoy \	McRae J St. Augustine I Bostick I Spring Garden J Peniel Y Etoniah J Wilderness J Putnam Hall H Holister M Picolota I	. A. Mosely I. M. King. D. W. Glisson W. Place Vm. E. Stanton A. Mosely A. Mosely J. R. Mosely J. L. Dyess J. L. Dyess	E. D. Prevatt G. F. Purchase D. Bohannan R. C. Breland J. M. Cannon T. M. Mallett S. Green T. J. Rogers F. T. Buchanan J. M. Traser	V. J. Prevatt, C. M. Priest. H. M. King, T.F.Corbett, G. M.Cladwe J. T. Minton, D. Bohannan L. W. Odom. J. M. Cannon. J. C. Strickland, T. M. Mallett E. W. Geiger, J. Holder S. E. Timmons, J. P. Wall, W. J. Gree M. L. Dyess, J. C. Osteen. M. L. Dyess	11

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