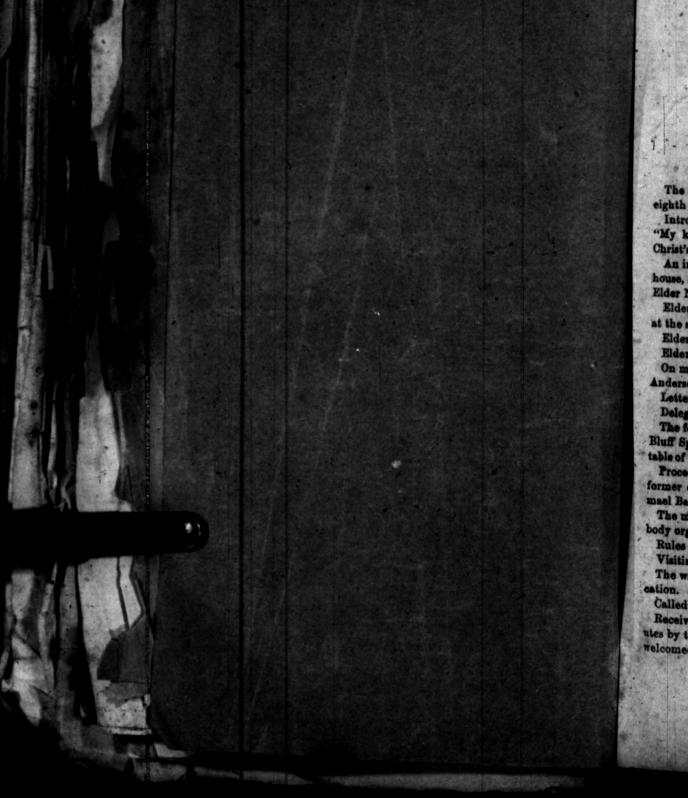
OF THE

MT. PISGAM Anytist Association,

BETHEL CHURCH,

NEWTON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI,



MINUTES.

September 17th, 1864.

The Mt. Pisgah Baptist Association met this day in her twenty-

Introductory sermon by Elder S. King, from John ch. xviii, v. 36, "My kingdom is not of this world," &c. Theme—Nature of Christ's kingdom.

An intermission of half an hour, and the delegates met in the house, and the Association was called to order by the Moderator, Elder N. L. Clarke, who led in prayer.

Elders W. A. Hutto and J. L. Matthews were requested to preach at the stand.

Elders A. Clark and S. King appointed to read letters.

Elder A. Grissett appointed assisstant clerk.

On motion, appointed Brethren J. A. Hendon, chairman, A. G. Anderson and D. Welch, a committee on Finance.

Letters were read from twenty-eight churches.

Delegates names enrolled and statistics minuted.

The following churches not represented: Center Hill, Herbert, Bluff Springs, Zion, New Prospect, (Newton co.,) Ebenezer. [See table of churches.]

Proceeded to choose officers. Resulted in the re-election of former officers N. L. Clarke, moderator, W. R. Butler, clerk, Ishmael Bailiff, treasurer.

The mederator made appropriate remarks, and announced the body organized and ready for business.

Rules of Decorum read by order from the moderator.

Visiting brethren invited to seats.

The way opened for the admission of new churches. No application.

Called for correspondence from other bodies.

Received from Salem Association a letter and package of minutes by the hands of her messenger, Elder W. Thigpen, who was welcomed to a seat among us. A letter was read from Capt. Blackwood, staff officer of General Adams' brigade, to Mrs. J. Moore, President of the Mississippi Soldier's Aid Society, setting forth the temporal wants of our soldiers in that brigade. Made the special order for 10 o'clock, A.M., Monday.

Proceeded to appoint committees.

Committee on Preaching-Brethren A. Eastland, R. R. Hardy, J. Pierce, E. E. Haralson, W. L. McIntosh.

Committee to Write Letters-Brethen J. L. Gresham, chairman, A. Grissett, W. A. Hutto.

Committee on Queries and Requests-I. P. Murrell, ch'm'n, A. Pace, M. H. Whatley, I. Bailiff, A. P. Wash.

Committee on State of Religion-J. Williams, ch'm'n, W. M. Flanagah, G. W. Gunn, F. S. Smith.

Committee on Missions—S. King, chairman, W. R. Butler, H. Dunu.

Committee on Sabbath Schools - W. R. Butler, oh'm'n, J. L. Gresham, J. A. Hendon.

Committee on Nominations - W. L. McIntosh, ch'm'n, W. Brewer, J. M. Kelly, M. H. Whatley, V. Sisson.

Resolved. That a collect on be taken up on Sabbath, after the 11 o'clock sermon, for the mission cause in Southeast Mississippi and in the army.

Committee on Preaching reported that Elder W. Thigpen preach at 11 o'clock, A. M., to-morrow, in the house, followed by Elder J. L. Mathews. In the evening, Elder W. R. Butler, followed by Elder N. L. Clarke.

At the stand, Elder A. Grissett, at 11 o'clock, A. M., followed by Elder B. Sims. In the evening Elder L. P. Murrell, followed by Elder John Williams.

Adjourned to 9 o'clock, A. M., Monday. Prayer by the moderator.

LORD'S DAY

The brethren appointed to labor to-day filled their respective appointments, discharging the duties assigned them faithfully.

The congregation was large, orderly and attentive. Much interest was manifested. Many came forward for prayer, and God's people were much refreshed. Collections were taken up: for home missions in S. E. Miss., \$112 36; for army missions, \$188 75. See Financial Report.

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r respective a faithfully. Much interand God's ten up: for ons, \$188 75. The Association met as per adjournment.

Prayer by Elder A. Grissett.

The roll was called.

Committee on Preaching report that Elders G. W. Gunn and J. L. Matthews are appointed to occupy the stand to day in the order of their names.

Resolved, That the Association observe her former order of busi-

Called for report of committees.

Committee to Write Letters reported. Report received and adopted. [See Appendix, A.]

Committee on Quries and Requests reported. After considerable discussion and some amendment, adopted. [See Appendix, R]

Committee on Missions reported. After impressive remarks from various brethren, adopted. [See Appendix, C.]

Committee on Sabbath Schools reported. Report adopted after slight amendment. [See App., D.]

Committee on Nominations reported adopted. | See Appendix,

Committee on Finance reported—adopted. [See Appendix, F.]
Committee on State of Religion reported—adopted. [See Appendix, G.]

Took up the special order referred from Saturday, being the subject of making up contributions for the benefit of our suffering soldiers. Therefore be it

Resolved, That the temporal claims of our soldiers in Gen. Adams' brigade be considered of great importance by this body, that we urge their claims among the brethren and people, and that for this purpose we request Mr. Wm. McIntosh to carry around a subscription for this object.

Arranged correspondence with other bodies. Appointed to Salem Association, Elders John Williams and G. W. Gunn.

To Harmony—Elders L. P. Murrell and W. R. Butler.

To Bethlehem—Eld. N. L. Clarke, Brethren I. Bailiff and John Poole.

Appointed as representatives to the Gen. Ass. Reg. Baptist S. E. Miss., the following brethren: S. King, E. E. Haralson, W. M. Flanagan, I. Bailiff, R. R. Hardy, D. Fore, John Williams, M. H. Whatley, A. Sarter, N. L. Clarke, J. B. Ishe, H. Cooper, F. S. Smith, W. A. Hutto, W. L. McIntosh, A. Clarke.

Resolved, That this Association turn over to the Gen'l Association all the funds on hand for benevolent purposes, and that the amount be handed to our representatives to that body. And, also, that the Treasurer of this body be instructed to hand over to the

board of the Gen'l Association any amount of surplus funds that may remain after the expenses of this Association shall have been defrayed.

Resolved, That the next session of this body be held with Pleasant Hill church, Newton county, Miss., to commence Saturday before the 3d Lord's day of Sept., 1865.

Resolved, That Elder N. L. Clarke be appointed to preach the next introductory sermon and Elder John Williams be his alternate.

Resolved, That the clerk be instructed to superintend the printing and distribution of these minutes, reserving enough for corresponding purposes, receive \$50 for his services, and draw on the Tressurer for the necessary funds.

Resolved. That the thanks of this body are due and hereby tendered to this church and community for their great kindness and liberality in supporting this Association.

Resolved, That the clerk be instructed to have published with these minutes the form of letter formerly recommended to the churches composing this body, and that they be requested to observe the same in preparing their letters to the Association.

Resolved, That we now suspend butiness and spend a time in prayer for our country. Bro. Murrell led in prayer.

Weereas. Many of our countrymen have been baptised in our army by ministers of our order, giving certificates of said baptisms,

WHEREAS, Said certificates are sent to the churches with a view to the obtaining of membership, therefore,

Resolved. That it be given as the sense of this body that said baptisms are valid, and that on said certificates such persons should be received and voted in as members of the churches, receiving the right hand of fellowship when they shall have the privilege of being present.

Resolved, That we now adjourn to meet at the time and place above named.

The minutes were read and adjusted. A hymn was sung and the parting hand of affection was given. Thus passed and closed in great harmony the twenty-eighth annual meeting of the Mt. Pisgah Association. Closing prayer by Elder W. R. Butler.

N. L. CLARKE, Moderator.

W. R. BUTLER, Clerk.

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NAMES OF ORDAINED MINISTERS AND THEIR POST-

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Hillsboro.

Conehatta.

Decatur.

Union.

Garlandsville.

Sebastopel. Morton.

Pineville.

THE SECRETARY STATE OF STATE OF

LICENTIATES AND THEIR POST-OFFICES.

W. M. PLANAGAN,

B. F. SPANGLER,

J. B. PLETCHER,

W. A. HUTSON,

W. R. BTTLER,

L. P. MURRELL, A. CLARKE,

N. L. CLARKE,

A. WINSTEAD, D. DOVE.

W. A. HUTTO,

B. SIMS.

D. FORE,

S. S. CROSS.

J. A. HITT,

JOHN WILLIAMS,

A. GRISSETT,

B. SPANGLER,

Gerlandsville.

Pineville.

Battlefeld.

Pineville.

Battlefield.

APPENDIX,

A

REPORT OF COMMITTEE TO WRITE LETTERS.

Letters given in manuscript to our messengers to other bodies.

B

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON QUERIES AND RE-

Your committee report, 1st. That they recommend that the re-

2d. In answer to the query from Leaf River church, we would say that we do not feel it to be our province to give a direct answer. Yet we would recommend the churches composing this body to exercise great care and tenderness in the cultivation and development of the public gifts they may have among them.

Submitted.

L. P. MURRELL, Chairman.

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REPORT OF COM. ON MISSIONS.

We, your Committee, submit the following report:

The need of missions was never greater than at the present time. The blessed Jesus has left his kingdom in our care, and commands us to watch its interests and extend its borders (as instruments in his hands.) The circumstances that surround us are such that we are cut off from the nations of the world, so that it is with great difficulty that we can send the gospel to the heathen. But still there remains much to be done even in our midst among the people at home and in the army. Your committee do not death it necessary to state to this body the condition of our country. It is well known by every member of this body, and by almost every woman and child among us.

We rejoice that this body, in connection with the Gen'l Association of S. E. Miss., seems to be alive to the importance of the great work of sending faithful ministers of Jesus Christ to the people of the destitute portions of our State, and to our brothers and sons in

the army. We regret that so little has been done and urge upon the churches to collect funds to be forwarded to this body until we shall have a sufficient fund to increase the number of faithful workmen in the field. We lament and deplore the rapid growth of centralism during the last three years in our land, and know of no better way to counteract this evil influence than by sending faithful ministers, who will preach the whole truth as it is revealed in God's word. We recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

Resolved. That the members of this body be requested to lay the claims of missions before their respective churches and urge upon them to send up funds to aid in carrying out this great and

God-approved work.

Respectfully submitted.

S. KING, Chairman.

REPORT OF COM. ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

Your committee report that we have to regret that churches and people of God within our bounds manifest so little concern on a subject in which the best interests of the rising generation are involved. No one can deny that it is the duty of all parents to train up their children in the way they should go, assured that when they are old they will not depart from it. The apostle admonishes parents to bring up their, children in the nurture and ad-

mouition of the Lord. How shall this be done?

Experience and observation have taught us that well-conducted Sabbath schools, in connection with the regular ministration of the word and faithful parental training, is a powerful means to accomplish this end. Among the various gifts mentioned in the New Testament is that of teaching. Why may not this gift be exercised and developed in Sabbath schools? We remember that Timothy knew the Scriptures from a child, which were able to make him wise unto salvation. We can call to mind the many impressions early made upon the minds of children by Sabbath school instruction, that have resulted in bringing them to the Savior, who said "Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not." Then, let parents give their children to Christ, and take them to Him consecrating them by their prayers and instructions. There, never has been a time in the history of our country when the demands of the rising generation called so loudly on the churches and Christians to employ means of spiritual instruction. Look at the many widewed mothers and orphan children; and the many children who are as good as orphan—their fathers in the army.

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While the bones of many of the fathers of these children lie bleaching on the hard fought field; and while many more of them aid in forming a living wall of defense between us and a ruthless foe-while they fight for our firesides and altars-let us feel it our bounden duty to labor for the good of those dear children-doing allowe can to raise a wall of defense between them and the many wils to which childhood and youth are incident. We recommend

the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That we recommend the pasters of our churches to lay the claims of Sabbath schools before their respective charges, and that each church be affectionately urged to establish and sus-

tain a Sabbath school in her midst.

Respectfully submitted.

W. B. BUTLER, Chairman

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REPORT OF COM. ON NOMINATIONS.

Your committee report that they have nominated Elder N. L. Clarke to preach the next introductory sermon, and Elder John Williams his alternate.

Respectfully submitted.

W. L. McINTOSH, Chairman.

REPORT OF COM. ON FINANCE.

Your Committee on Finance report that they have examined the Treasurer's report, and find a balance in his hands, as per report, Public collection on Lord's day for Dom. Missions ... 112 30 " Army ec'd from Hillsboro church Pine Ridge "Jas. M. Trussell, 81 00 Mary A. Trussell Victoria Allen, Total.

Respectfully submitted.

J. A. HENDON, Chairman.

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Chairman

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REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON STATE OF RE-LIGION.

Your committee report that we have to report that after hearing the reading of the letters from the various churches composing this body; some few churches complain of coldness, but the majority of the churches have enjoyed precious revivals, for which we have great reason to praise God and take courage. Though our country is invaded by a foe, and though the time is gloomy nationally, God has favored His Zion in these ends of the Earth-many hearts have been made to rejoice in the hope of the glory of God -fulfilling his promise that He is a present help, in trouble, and He will be with His children alway, even unto death.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN WILLIAMS, Chairman.

BLANK FORM OF LETTER FOR THE USE OF CHURCHES.

- COUNTY, STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, -REGULAR BAPTIST CHURCH OF CHRIST.

To Mt. Pisgah Association in annual meeting for 186-: Dear Brethren: We have this day chosen our beloved brethren [here insert the delegates names] to bear you this our letter, and sit with you in your annual meeting for 186-, at ---- For all further necessary information we refer you to our statistics be-

Baptised —, received by letter —, restored —, dismissed by letter —, excluded —, dead —, white males —, white females —, colored —, Total —. No. of minutes —, for Associational purposes -, for missions -, time of meeting

We are in [here make general remarks as to the state of the church, &c.

Pray for us. May the Lord be with and bless you.

It is hoped that the above form will be observed by clerks of churches in preparing letters to the Association, for the sake of uniformity and brevity. And, also, that they will write with plain ink, and in a legible hand if possible: so that mistakes, for which the clerk is generally held responsible, may be avoided.

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