



PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

THIRTIETH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

1869

Chickasaw Baptist Association,

HELD WITH THE

CHERRY CREEK CHURCH, PONTOTOC CO., MISS.,

September 17, 18 and 20, 1869.

OFFICERS:

ELDER L. HALL, MODERATOR.
E. SMYTH, CLERK.

MEMPHIS, TENN.:

PRINTED BY THE SOUTHWESTERN PUBLISHING COMPANY.

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MINUTES.

CHERRY CREEK CHURCH, PONTOTOC Co., Miss.; }
September 17, 1869. }

The delegates composing the Chickasaw Association met with the church at Cherry Creek, on Friday before the third Sabbath in September, 1869.

The Introductory Sermon was preached by Elder W. L. Farmer, from the Ephesians ii, 19, 20, 21.

The congregation was dismissed for one hour.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Association met pursuant to dismission. Prayer by Elder St. Clair Lawrence. The meeting was called to order by Elder Jas. Boswell, Moderator, assisted by the Clerk.

Elders H. L. Finley and J. B. Gamble were appointed Reading Clerks.

The letters from the several churches were then called for in regular order, and the names of the delegates enrolled. (See statistical table.)

Petitionary letters were then called for, when Midway and Toco-
polo Churches presented letters, asking admission to the body. The letters were read and the churches received, by giving the right hand of fellowship to their delegates.

The Association then proceeded to the election of Moderator and Clerk, Elders St. Clair Lawrence and L. R. Barris acting as Tellers of election, which resulted in the choice of Elder L. Ball as Moderator, and E. Smythe, Clerk.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES.

Devotion—J. B. Gamble and J. V. Nunly, together with the Deaconship of this church.

State of Religion—Elders Jas. Boswell, H. Pritchard and H. L. Finley and Brethren S. H. Plant and W. P. Goolsley.

Documents—Elders J. B. Gambrel, J. Crossly and Bro. J. E. Boatwright.

Sabbath Schools—Elders W. W. Finley, Jas. Boswell and Bro. A. W. Funk.

Temperance—Elders H. L. Finley, J. Smith and Bro. J. A. Robbins.

The Bible Cause—Elders J. T. Pitts, J. B. Gambrel and Bro. J. F. Stocks.

Finance—Elder D. J. Smith and Brethren A. J. Hall and F. Sauter.

Arrangement of Business—Elder W. L. Farmer, Jas. Boswell, W. W. Finley and Brethren H. Pitts, W. S. Greer.

Home Missions—Elders H. L. Finley, W. L. Farmer and Bro. J. B. Gambrel.

Foreign Missions—Elders J. B. Gambrel, H. Pritchard and Bro. F. Sauter.

On motion, adjourned to nine o'clock Saturday morning.

Prayer by Elder H. L. Finley.

SATURDAY MORNING, September 18.

Met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Elder Jas. Crossly. Minutes of yesterday read and adopted.

The Committee on Arrangement of Business made their report through the Chairman which was adopted.

Read the Constitution and Abstract of Principles and Rules of Decorum.

Correspondence being called for, the following were received:

From the Judson Association—Elders J. J. Andrews, C. Malone, Wm. Fuquay, and Brethren H. Hood and J. Case (together with a minute), to whom the right hand of fellowship was given.

From the Aberdeen Association—T. Rodgers, J. S. Cobb, T. H. Griffin, T. M. Stegall, and A. J. McNeal.

From the Tippah Association—Elder M. P. Lowry and Brethren J. H. Berry and J. S. Berry.

From the Baptist State Convention—Elders M. P. Lowry and L. Burriss.

From the Tishomingo Association—Elder L. P. Burriss and Brethren W. J. Smith and W. J. Page.

From the Cold Water Association—Elder J. W. Stein and Bro. T. H. Smith.

From Yalobusha Association—Elder W. W. Finley.

Appointment of Correspondents:

To the Cold Water Association—Elders J. Smith, W. P. Mather-

sted and Brethren J. H. Morgan, J. P. Fletcher, H. Kirk, J. H. Marrett, E. Smith; J. Smith to write.

To the Tishomingo Association—Elders J. B. Gambrel, H. L. Finley, Jas. Boswell, L. Ball, and Brethren J. A. Robbins, A. J. Hall, N. M. Berry, J. B. Gambrel, E. Smyth, J. J. Reggins; H. L. Finley to write.

To the Aberdeen Association—Elders H. L. Finley, H. Pritchard, B. B. Barmore and Brethren J. Taylor, A. J. Hall, E. Smyth; A. J. Hall to write.

To the Judson Association—Elder D. J. Smith and Brother S. H. Plant, A. W. Funk; D. J. Smith to write.

To the Yallobusha Association—Elders W. W. Finley, W. Smith; N. H. Ward, and W. W. Finley to write.

To the Tippah Association—Elders W. L. Farmer, J. T. Pitts, Jas. Boswell; Brethren J. E. Boatwright, S. C. Darden; W. L. Farmer to write.

To the Baptist State Convention—Elders W. L. Farmer, W. W. Finley, H. L. Finley, J. Crossley, L. Ball, H. Pritchard, J. T. Pitts, J. B. Gambrell and Brethren F. Sauter, N. M. Berry, E. Smyth, W. L. Sauter, W. G. Austin, S. H. Plant, J. W. Richey; N. M. Berry to write.

The next session of this body was then appointed to be held with the church at Tocopolo, fifteen miles west of the town of Pontoc.

On motion, adjourned, to hear a sermon by Elder J. W. Stein, of the Cold Water Association.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Association met at 1½ o'clock. Prayer by Elder W. L. Farmer. Elected Elder W. W. Finley to preach the next Introductory Sermon and Elder L. Ball, alternate.

REPORTS.

The Treasurer was called on to report, when he asked further time. Granted.

The Executive Board, being called upon to report, also asked an extension of time. Granted.

[Elected as an Executive Board for the ensuing year, N. M. Berry, J. E. Boatwright, F. Sauter, A. W. Funk and E. Smyth.]

The report of the Committee on the State of Religion was called for, when Elder J. Boswell presented the following, which was read and adopted. [See Appendix "C."]

The Committee on Documents made their report through their Chairman, which after being read, was adopted. [See Appendix "D."]

The Committee on Sabbath Schools made their report, when on motion, it was laid on the table until Monday morning, owing to the late hour of the evening. [See Appendix "E."]

On application, leave of absence was granted to Brother G. W. Hall.

Adjourned to 9 o'clock Monday morning.

Prayer by Elder M. P. Lowery.

SUNDAY MORNING, September 19.

At 10 o'clock the stand was occupied by Elder L. Ball, addressing a very large and attentive concourse of people, in his usual interesting style of preaching.

At noon Elder M. P. Lowery preached a very forcible and impressive sermon to an orderly and decorous congregation; after which a public collection was taken, amounting to \$61 05.

MONDAY MORNING, September 20.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Elder W. L. Farmer. Minutes of Saturday read and approved.

On motion, the report on Sabbath Schools was taken up, and after several able speeches, showing the importance of establishing and maintaining Sabbath Schools in all churches, it was adopted.

The report on Home Missions was read and after being thoroughly discussed, was adopted as follows: [See Appendix "F."]

On application, leave of absence was granted Bro. J. J. Reggins.

Adjourned for one hour. Prayer by Elder M. P. Lowery, of the Tippah Association.

EVENING SESSION.

Met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Elder H. L. Finley.

The Committee on Finance made the following report, which was adopted, and ordered to be spread upon the minutes: [See Appendix "G."]

The Executive Board made their report through the Chairman, Bro. N. M. Berry, which was adopted. [See Appendix "B."]

The report on Foreign Missions was read by the Chairman, and

after some discussion, was adopted after raising \$11 for its support. [See Appendix "H."]

The report on Temperance was read, and after its importance being shown in several speeches, it was adopted. [See Appendix "L."]

The Treasurer made his report, which was adopted. [See Appendix "A."]

The report on the Bible Cause was made by Elder J. T. Pitts, which was adopted, being the same as of 1867. [See Appendix "J."]

Owing to the fact that several of the churches having failed to report their history to the Committee of last year's appointment; therefore,

Resolved, That the same Committee be continued, and the churches be requested to furnish their history at the earliest opportunity, to Elder J. T. Pitts, at Cherry Creek, as Chairman.

The letters to the several bodies, with whom we correspond, were read and adopted.

Granted leave of absence to Elders J. Smith, Jas. B. Gambrel, and Bro. J. A. Robbins.

RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved, That we feel the necessity of a Baptist Female School of high order, at some accessible point in North Mississippi, and that we are ready to give our hearty support and co-operation to such an enterprise, under the direction of a good and efficient Principal.

Resolved, That the delegates of this Association return their thanks to the brethren, sisters and friends of this vicinity for the kindness and hospitality extended to them during this meeting.

Resolved, That the Clerk be requested to superintend the printing and distribution of the minutes, reserving fifteen dollars for his services.

Adjourned (after singing one of the songs of Zion, during which a most cordial feeling was expressed, by giving to each other the parting hand,) to meet with the church at Tocopolo, Friday before the third Sabbath in September, 1870.

L. BALL, *Moderator*.

E. SMYTH, *Clerk*.

APPENDIX.

"A"

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Elijah Smith, Treasurer, in account with the Chickasaw Association, 1868-9.

DEBTOR.

Sept.	19.	To am't received of Finance Committee.....	\$55 38
"	20.	On sale of ring.....	16 00
Dec.	6.	Received of J. S. Berry.....	1 00
"	6.	" " N. Vernor.....	5 00
Jan.	5.	" " M. H. Ward.....	2 00
"	5.	" " H. L. Finley.....	15 00
"	9.	" " J. B. Stewart.....	5 00
"	9.	" " W. L. Sauter.....	5 00
Feb.	13.	" " Jas. Cobb.....	2 00
May	1.	" on sale of gold dust.....	1 10
July	20.	" " old subscription.....	1 00
Sept.	12.	" by W. Santer.....	5 00
"	17.	" " Midway Church.....	5 55
"	17.	" " Mt. Pisgah.....	5 50
"	17.	" " A. W. Funk.....	5 00
"	17.	" on-sale of Books by W. W. Finley.....	50 00
"	17.	" " " " N. W. Berry.....	4 00
"	17.	To am't received of Cherry Creek Church.....	60 50
"	17.	" " Temperance Hill ".....	15 00
"	17.	" " Liberty ".....	15 00
"	17.	" " Mt. Pleasant ".....	57 75
"	17.	" " New Hope ".....	15 00
"	17.	" " Bethel Church, Lafayette Co....	5 00
"	17.	" " G. W. Hall.....	5 00
"	17.	" " Philadelphia.....	25 00
"	17.	" " J. H. Hurrey.....	2 00
"	17.	" " Public collection on Sabbath.....	61 05
"	17.	" " Trinity Church.....	70 00
Sept.	20.	" " Finance Committee.....	73 50—\$586 33

CREDITOR.

Jan.	By uncurrent funds.....	\$ 2 00
"	" am't paid H. L. Finley, bal. salary as Ms'niry.....	58 00
May 1.	" expenses on books.....	3 00
"	" cash paid for Bibles and Testaments.....	48 80

May 1. By Expenses on Bibles.....	1 25	
“ “ am't paid W. W. Finley, as Missionary.....	300 00	
“ “ “ as per resolution of Association.....	10 00	
“ “ “ paid for printing minutes of 1868.....	45 00	\$468 05
Balance.....		\$118 28

All of which is respectfully submitted,

E. SMYTH, *Treasurer.*

“ B ”

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD.

The Executive Board beg leave to report: That they were so fortunate soon after their appointment, as to secure the labors of Bro. W. W. Finley, for one-half of his time, whose report is as follows:

DEAR BRETHREN: As your Missionary, I have spent six months in the field, have traveled more than a thousand miles, preached sixty-eight times, baptized thirteen, organized two churches at very important points, distributed \$54 worth of Bibles and Testaments, have visited many families—engaging with them in religious conversation and prayer, have witnessed the conversion of many sinners—some of whom united with Baptist churches, but were baptized by others. I know of other converts who will unite with us soon. I regard my work as merely the seed time where I have labored. The churches organized are each preparing to build themselves substantial houses of worship.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

W. W. FINLEY, *Missionary.*

Brethren, the labors of the Associational year is before you. We fully concur with Bro. Finley in regarding the work done as the planting of precious seed, which will require future cultivation in order to reap the harvest. You have seen that little has been done in the distribution of Bibles and Testaments, owing in part to the want of funds to purchase them.

We would respectfully recommend that the churches pledging for the support of missions in our bounds, make at least half the amount payable by the first of June, so that your Board may have the means to furnish the Missionary with a good supply of books. Many books might be sent abroad which, in addition to Bibles and Testaments, might be the means of impressing our membership with the importance of a growth of grace, and more consecration and earnestness in the service of God.

All must acknowledge that this is the great want of our churches. For while the injunction, “Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature,” stands unrevoked, the means are not wanting if they were consecrated to the great work of evangelizing the world. Will we go forth with our influence, our bounty and our prayers, to preach this blessed gospel? We trust that each member of the churches of this Association will prayerfully consider this subject and with increased liberality come to a faithful discharge of this duty.

That “it is more blessed to give than to receive,” many of you can testify from past experience. Our means belong to God. To us is committed all we

have, as his stewards. Then, will we give reluctantly, or sparingly, while a world is perishing for a lack of the bread of life? Let us remember what sacrifices our missionaries and preachers have to make in order to declare the truths of the gospel. Let us help them in this glorious work by an increased liberality and by our prayers.

We close, by praying God's blessings upon what has been done in accordance with his will, and for direction in the future, and by imploring forgiveness for anything that has been done amiss. We ask the Association to unite their prayers with ours, that our labors and the labors of our beloved Missionary may be signally blessed, to the salvation of very many precious souls during the next Associational year.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

N. M. BERRY, *Chairman.*

"C"

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE STATE OF RELIGION.

Your Committee, to whom was referred The State of Religion, beg leave to submit the following:

According to the letters from the churches, the good Lord has graciously revived His work among them, with but few exceptions. As a result, many have been brought to a knowledge of the truth as it is in Christ; consequently we are able to report a better state of religion than for several years past, and for which we have abundant reason to be thankful, and to take courage. But while we rejoice over what God has done for us, let us remember that much remains to be done. Let us not relax our energies, but with renewed strength, gather about the standard of our Savior, and with vigor push forward the conquest of our Redeemer's kingdom. And as one very important means of success, we would recommend the establishment of a prayer meeting in every church.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

JAS. BOSWELL, *Chairman.*

"D"

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON DOCUMENTS.

We, your Committee on Documents, beg leave to report as follows:

We recommend that so much of the proceedings of the two Union meetings as relates to time and place of holding next meeting, ministers to preach Introductory Sermons, queries to be discussed at next meetings, also essays to be written, with names of writers, be published in our minutes.

We also recommend that the Constitution, Rules of Decorum and Abstract of Principles be published in our next minutes.

Believing that the times demand that we, as a people, be thoroughly informed, we recommend to the brethren that they patronize and read *The Baptist*, published at Memphis, *The Home and Foreign Journal*, published at Richmond, Va., also *Kind Words*, a Sabbath School paper, published at Memphis under the direction of the Southern Baptist Convention. We would also recommend the *Orphans' Home Banner* be taken. All of which is respectfully submitted,

J. B. GAMBRELL, *Chairman.*

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

1. The subject of Sabbath Schools has been so thoroughly discussed, and is at this time so well understood, that your Committee deem it unnecessary to write a lengthy report on the subject.

2. The importance of the subject is manifest from the teaching of scripture: "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it." "Bring up your children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord." Here it is very clearly indicated that it is the duty of parents to bring their children to Christ.

3. How shall we best accomplish this vastly important work? Answer: the Sabbath School has proved to be one of the very best agents to accomplish the work contemplated in the above question.

4. The Sabbath School is one of the auxiliaries of the church. The children trained in them are much more easily impressed with the gospel—are much better prepared, when converted to understand the duties of Christianity.

5. We would advise that every church where it is practicable, have a Sabbath School, and where it cannot be had at the meeting house, have neighborhood schools. We want earnest, energetic workers in this great cause.

6. Who, of the many intelligent Baptist brethren and sisters in this Association will consecrate themselves to the Sunday School work? Who?

Respectfully submitted,

W. W. FINLEY, *Chairman.*

REPORT ON HOME MISSION.

We learn from the report of the Corresponding Secretary of the Board at Marion, Ala., that some of the important points formerly occupied by their missionaries have been abandoned for want of means to sustain them. This is, indeed, lamentable, when we take into consideration the fact that many of them are large towns and cities—centers of influence, where Roman Catholicism and every other damnable heresy are being firmly planted and sustained. Brethren, these things ought not so to be, as long as we have men and money given us by the great Author of all good. While we are called upon to lament the necessity of abandoning many of our stations in different parts of the South, we are happy to know that the Board has continued the services of our esteemed and worthy brother, Elder M. P. Lowrey, as State Evangelist, through whose earnest efforts many waste places have been made to blossom as the rose, and the cause of missions greatly advanced.

In conclusion, we would earnestly recommend all the churches of this Association to contribute liberally to sustain this great cause.

Respectfully,

H. L. FINLEY.

"G"

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Amaziah Church.....	\$ 5 75	Piney Grove Church.....	\$1 50
Bethel " Pontotoc Co.....	1 25	Spring Hill "	4 00
Bethel " Lafayette "	2 10	Spring Creek "	2 00
Cypress Creek Church.....	2 00	Shady Grove "	2 15
Cherry Creek "	10 55	Shiloh "	1 50
Friendship "	1 00	Temperance Hill "	5 00
Liberty "	3 45	Trinity "	2 70
Mt. Pleasant "	5 00	Tocopolo "	2 00
Mt. Pisgah "	3 00	Hopewell "	2 50
New Hope "	2 00	El Bethel "	1 50
Pleasant Ridge "	2 00	Carey Spring "	1 75
Pleasant Hill "	2 45	Midway "	2 00
Philadelphia "	4 15	Spring Creek (for Home Mission)..	4 00

Total.....\$77 50
Respectfully submitted.

D. J. SMITH, *Chairman.*

"H"

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Our mission work is divided into two departments, known as the Home Mission and Foreign Mission. Whilst we would urge the importance of Home Mission as a great work and one that should be near every Christian heart, we would not have you forget the Foreign Mission field, which is now white unto harvest. Brethren, millions of our fellow beings are living and dying without that heavenly knowledge which alone can make them wise unto salvation. Some of them, upon whom the light of heaven has begun to dawn, hold out their hands imploringly to us, and ask us to give them the bread of life. Will we do it? Much in the last four-score years has been done in this work, but we have only begun the great work, and it rests with us to push our foreign missionary enterprises forward till every heathen temple shall be razed to the foundation, and temples of the living God shall rise in their stead, which shall resound with the praise of Jesus. We recommend that every church in our bounds contribute something annually to this cause, and that our pastors do what they can to influence the churches so to do. All of which is submitted,

J. B. GAMBRELL, *Chairman.*

"I"

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE.

DEAR BRETHREN: We are not able to report any change in the progress of this great evil—intemperance. Its course seems to be onward, and, so far as we can observe, unchecked; and the evil now resulting from the sin of intemperance in our country is truly to be considered alarming. Brethren, we would call your special attention to this subject, as we believe it has been too little heeded heretofore. We have only to observe the habits of the most pious families to see much evil resulting therefrom; much disease is caused by eating intemperately; much pride and vanity is suggested by dressing intemperately; and much quarreling and strife is the result of our failing to temper our pas-

sions and desires, and we have no doubt but that the intemperate use of coffee and tobacco is destroying the lives of many; but by far the greater evil resulting from intemperance is caused by the immoderate use of ardent spirits, the number of the victims of which, when placed on statistical tables, is truly appalling.

We find when Paul was arraigned before Felix, he thought proper to reason on righteousness, temperance and the judgment. Brethren, it seems strange that we give so little attention to this subject, when the Apostle placed it directly between two subjects of so great magnitude. We believe God has a purpose in all his works, and we are not likely to be judged guiltless if we, by the intemperate use of luxuries, shorten our own lives or the lives of others.

Brethren, as before intimated, your Committee consider this subject of great importance, and that we may be temperate in all things we consider it the duty of all professing Christians to walk temperately, eat and drink temperately, act temperately, by observing our own extravagances and circumscribing our own carnal desires, thus preserving the tabernacle which God designed we should occupy while accomplishing his purpose here on earth.

Respectfully submitted,

H. L. FINLEY, *Chairman.*

"J"

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON THE BIBLE CAUSE.

We cannot too highly prize the Bible. It is God's own and only revelation to man. It contains a full revelation of His will, and is a perfect rule of faith and practice, and makes known to us the only plan of salvation to a guilty and lost race. We feel it our duty, as Baptists, to circulate the blessed Word, at home and abroad, in the purest versions that can be obtained. It is a matter of the profoundest regret, and a source of the deepest mortification to us, to be compelled to declare that the American Bible Union has manifestly violated its own rule of translation in the rendering of the Greek terms, "*doulos*," generally, and "*andrepodistes*," in 1st Tim. i: 10. The institution of slavery, it is true, has disappeared from amongst us, never to return. Yet the new version in translating a term that evidently means "slave stealers," and is so rendered in our common version, "slave dealers," we, who once were slave holders—as were most of the saints of the Jewish dispensation, and most of the Christians of the Apostolic Churches—are classed, by this version, with murderers, and involved in the guilt, and obnoxious to the penalty due to those who, in the Apostles' days, stole slaves—not freemen—in order to enslave the kidnappers.

We can never place a version so untrue to the original, and so unjust to ourselves, in the hands of our children, and the generation to come—to teach them to regard their fathers as a race justly obnoxious to the divine displeasure. The blow that fanaticism has inflicted upon us we can never consent to be sustained and justified by an equally false and fanatical version of God's Word. Let the Bible Union wait ere it curses the slave dealer—until God curses him.

We are, as ever, the advocates of a pure version, and trust that the voice of the denomination will yet constrain the Bible Union to conform their version in all respects to the teachings of the divine originals.

Respectfully submitted,

J. T. PITTS, *Chairman.*

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ORDER OF BUSINESS.

The Committee appointed to arrange business, beg leave to recommend the following:

1. Read Constitution, Rules of Decorum and Abstract of Principles.
 2. Call for correspondence from bodies with whom we correspond.
 3. Invite visiting brethren from sister Associations, and ministering brethren of our order, to seats with us.
 4. Appoint Corresponding Messengers to sister Associations, and to the State Convention, and brethren to write.
 5. Appoint the place for holding the next Association.
 6. Elect a minister to preach the next Introductory Sermon.
 7. Call for the Treasurer's report.
 8. Call for the report of the Executive Board.
 9. Elect an Executive Board.
 10. Call for the reports of Committees.
 11. Call for miscellaneous business.
- All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. L. FARMER, *Chairman.*

PLEDGES.

Pledges made for the support of a Missionary in the bounds of the Chickasaw Association, to be paid at the meeting of this Association in 1870.

Shiloh Church.....	\$15 00	New Hope Church.....	\$10 00
Bethel " Lafayette Co.....	10 00	H. L. Finley.....	10 00
J. W. Hobbs.....	5 00	W. H. Finley.....	5 00
J. H. Huey.....	3 00	J. Smith.....	5 00
Cherry Creek Church.....	88 00	Philadelphia Church.....	25 00
Midway ".....	15 00	J. F. Stocks.....	5 00
Cypress Creek ".....	10 00	C. B. Williams.....	5 00
F. Sauter.....	5 00	J. T. Pitts.....	5 00
Spring Hill.....	20 00	Friendship Church.....	15 00
Trinity.....	10 00		
Total.....			\$266 00

EXECUTIVE BOARD.

N. M. Berry, A. W. Funk, F. Sauter, J. E. Boatwright, E. Smyth.

OFFICERS.

L. Ball, Moderator; E. Smyth, Clerk and Treasurer.

The Union meeting of the First District will be held with the Baptist Church at Liberty, commencing Thursday before the first Sunday in August, 1870; Elder D. J. Smith to preach the Introductory Sermon; Elder J. T. Pitts, alternate.

The following queries were agreed upon to be discussed at said meeting:

1. Has a church at a Call Conference a right to transact any business except that for which it was called?
2. Has a church a scriptural right to exclude a brother for living apart from his wife?
3. What course should a church take with a brother who gives his influence to the sale or use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage?

The following brethren were appointed to write essays on subjects in connection with their names:

Bro. C. O. Potter—"Relative duties of Churches and Deacons."

Elder L. Ball—"The relation between Christ and the Believer."

ORDAINED MINISTERS AND THEIR POST OFFICES.

L. Ball, Okalona, Miss.	E. Browning, Cherry Creek, Miss.
W. W. Finley, Lafayette Springs, Miss.	J. T. Pitts, " " "
H. L. Finley, " " "	D. J. Smith, " " "
Jas. Crossley, " " "	Jas. Boswell, Tardville, "
Thos. Gorley, Tocopolo, "	Jas. B. Gambrel, New Albany, "
W. L. Farmer, Holly Springs, "	J. Smith, " " "
W. P. Matherstead " "	B. B. Barmore, " " "
W. L. Reynolds, Cornersville, "	J. W. Lewis, Waterford, "
H. Pritchard, Rocky Ford, "	S. A. Webb, Holly Springs, "



CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. This Association shall be called the "CHICKASAW BAPTIST ASSOCIATION."

ART. 2. It shall be composed of persons who have been duly elected delegates by the respective churches belonging to this Union.

ART. 3. The delegates representing the different churches shall, at the opening of the Association, present the letters specifying their appointment, and also showing the number baptized, received by letter, dismissed, excluded, restored, and dead, during the year, together with the whole number in fellowship.

ART. 4. Every church belonging to this body shall be entitled to three delegates until they number 100 members, and then one for each hundred above that number.

ART. 5. Churches of this Union failing to represent themselves at one Association, will be expected to state the reason of their failure at the next, and if any church fail for three successive meetings, the Association may consider such church as dropped from its number, or shall have power to send a committee to inquire into its state, or proceed as the Association may deem most advisable.

ART. 6. New churches may be admitted into this Union by signifying their wish by letter and delegates, provided they be deemed orthodox, and are willing to walk in fellowship with us.

ART. 7. The Association shall have a Moderator and Clerk, who shall be chosen at each annual meeting, so soon as letters from the churches are read, and members' names' names enrolled; Provided, however, that nothing in this article be so construed as to prohibit churches petitioning for union with us, from voting by their delegates for Moderator and Clerk.

ART. 8. This Association shall have no power to adopt rules that shall at any time infringe upon the independence and rights of churches; it shall, however, be at liberty to advise churches belonging to it, or it may withdraw from such churches as are known to walk disorderly.

ART. 9. The Association shall have a fund for its expenses, and the churches shall be at liberty to send up such funds as they may think proper, either for foreign or domestic missions, for the Bible or any other benevolent institution, and the Association appoint one or more, to take charge of the same, and forward them as they may be designated, and report to the next Association.

ART. 10. Any church of this Union having a difficulty that she cannot settle, may call help from other churches, or may present the case to this body for advice; such cases must be presented in the letter of correspondence, stating the reasons why it has not, or could not be decided by the church.

ART. 11. If any church should have a difficulty with a sister church, we

recommend said church to take the gospel steps as directed in Matthew xviii; and no difficulty will be entertained by this Association until such steps are taken.

ART. 12. When churches of this Union have members supposed to possess ministerial gifts, we recommend them to call to their aid, from two or more churches, the ministers, and such other members as the churches may deem most suitable, to examine the individuals, and if thought advisable, to authorize such a member or members to preach the gospel—which shall be reported to the Association, and entered on the minutes.

ART. 13. Any church having a gift she deems worthy of Ordination, shall call a Presbytery of ministers from sister churches to officiate in the work; and all Presbyteries in the ordination of ministers and deacons, or in constituting churches, shall be governed by the abstract of principles of this Association.

ART. 14. This Association may correspond, by letter and delegates, with the Baptist Convention of this State, and with such Associations as she may deem most conducive to the general interest of Zion.

ART. 15. The minutes of the Association shall be read and corrected, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the session rises. No Association shall adjourn, unless in extraordinary cases, until it has finished all its business.

RULES OF DECORUM.

ARTICLE 1. The Association shall be opened by prayer.

ART. 2. The Moderator and Clerk shall be chosen by the members present by private ballot.

ART. 3. The Moderator shall be considered the judge of order, but any member not satisfied with his decision, may appeal, provided the appeal be made on the same day, but at no subsequent time.

ART. 4. The Moderator shall be entitled to the same privilege of speaking as other members, but not to vote, unless his vote be necessary to decide the question. If he rises to speak, he shall call on some brother to take the chair.

ART. 5. All questions brought before the Association shall be introduced by motion, and if seconded, shall be opened for discussion, unless withdrawn by the mover or his second. When a subject has been taken up and a reasonable time allowed for discussion, the Moderator shall take the question by yeas and nays, and if a call for a division be made, it shall be decided by the members rising.

ART. 6. Any member wishing to speak shall rise and address the Moderator. Only one member shall be allowed to speak at the same time, and while speaking shall not be interrupted, unless he depart from the subject, or make personal reflections.

ART. 7. No person shall speak more than once upon any subject, until all who wish to speak shall have had an opportunity, nor more than twice upon any subject without permission.

ART. 8. Every subject introduced for discussion shall be first decided before another shall be offered, unless it be laid over by motion, with the consent of the mover and Association.

ART. 9. The Association shall, in all cases, be governed by a majority of the members present, except in the reception of churches, then a unanimous vote shall be required. "But in no case shall one member or church prevent the reception of a church without sufficient cause shown, which shall be determined by a majority."

ART. 10. The names of members shall be called whenever the Association shall direct, and the absentees marked. Any member wishing to retire shall obtain permission of the Moderator.

ART. 11. The appellation of brother shall be used by the members in addressing each other.

ART. 12. Any member violating these rules shall be subject to reproof by the Moderator, but only on the day the breach shall have been committed.

ART. 13. Amendments or alterations may be made to these rules when a majority may deem it necessary.

ABSTRACT OF PRINCIPLES.

1. *Of the Scriptures.*—We believe the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired, and is a perfect treasure of heavenly instruction; that it has God for its author, salvation for its end; and Truth without any mixture of error for its matter; that it reveals the principles by which God will judge us; and therefore is, and shall remain to the end of the world, the true center of Christian union, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds and opinions should be tried.

2. *Of the true God.*—That there is one, and only one, true and living God, whose name is JEHOVAH, the Maker, and Supreme Ruler of heaven and earth; inexpressably glorious in holiness, worthy of all possible honor, confidence and love, revealed under the personal and relative distinction of the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost; equal in every divine perfection, and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.

3. *Of the fall of man.*—That man was created in a state of holiness, under the law of his Maker, but by voluntary transgression fell from that holy and happy state, in consequence of which all mankind are now sinners, not by constraint, but choice; being by nature utterly void of that holiness required by the law of God, wholly given to the gratification of the world, of satan, and of their own sinful passions, and therefore under just condemnation to eternal ruin, without defence or excuse.

4. *Of the Way of Salvation.*—That the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace, through the mediatorial offices of the Son of God, who took upon him our nature, yet without sin; honored the law by his personal obedience, and made atonement for our sins by his death; being risen from the dead, he is now enthroned in heaven, and uniting in his wonderful person the tenderest sympathies with divine perfection, is every way qualified to be a suitable, a compassionate and all-sufficient Savior.

5. *Of Justification.*—That the great gospel blessing which Christ of his fullness bestows on such as believe in him, is Justification; that Justification consists in the pardon of sin, and the promise of eternal life, on principles of righteousness; that it is bestowed, not in consideration of any works of righteousness which we have done, but solely through his own redemption and righteousness; that it brings us into a state of most blessed peace and favor with God, and secures every other blessing needful for time and eternity.

6. *Of the Freeness of Salvation.*—That the blessings of Salvation are made free to all by the gospel; that it is the immediate duty of all to accept them by a cordial and obedient faith, and that nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner on earth, except his own voluntary refusal to submit to the Lord Jesus Christ, which refusal will subject him to an aggravated condemnation.

7. *Of Grace in Regeneration.*—That in order to be saved, we must be regenerated or born again; that regeneration consists in giving a holy disposition to the mind, and is effected in a manner above our comprehension or calculation, by the power of the Holy Spirit, so as to secure our voluntary obedience to the gospel, and that its proper evidence is found in the holy fruit which we bring forth to the glory of God.

8. *Of God's purpose of Grace.*—That election is the gracious purpose of God, according to which he regenerates, sanctifies and saves sinners; that being perfectly consistent with the free agency of man, it comprehends all the means in connection with the end; that it is a most glorious display of God's sovereign goodness, being infinitely wise, holy and unchangeable; that it utterly excludes boasting, and promotes humility, prayer, praise, trust in God, and active imitation of his free mercy; that it encourages the use of means in the highest degree; that it is ascertained by its effects in all who believe the gospel; is the foundation of Christian assurance; and that to ascertain it with regard to ourselves, demands and deserves our utmost diligence.

9. *Of the Perseverance of Saints.*—That such only are real believers as endure unto the end; that their persevering attachment to Christ is the grand mark which distinguishes them from superficial professors; that a special Providence watches over their welfare, and that they are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

10. *Harmony of the Law and Gospel.*—That the law of God is the eternal and unchangeable rule of his moral government; that it is holy, just and good; and that the inability which the scriptures ascribe to fallen men to fulfil its precepts arises entirely from their love of sin; to deliver them from which, and to restore them through a mediator to unfeigned obedience to the holy law, is one great end of the gospel, and of the means of grace connected with the establishment of this visible church.

11. *Of a Gospel Church.*—That a visible church of Christ is a congregation of baptized believers, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the gospel; observing the ordinances of Christ, governed by his laws, and exercising the gifts, rights and privileges invested in them by his word; that its only proper officers are bishops or pastors, and deacons, whose qualifications, claims, and duties are defined in the Epistles to Timothy and Titus.

12. *Of Baptism and the Lord's Supper.*—That Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer, in water, in the name of the Father, Son and Spirit; to show forth in a solemn and beautiful emblem, our faith in a crucified, buried and risen Savior, with its purifying power; that it is pre-requisite to the privilege of a church relation; and to the Lord's Supper, in which the members of the church, by the use of the bread and wine, are to commemorate together the dying love of Christ, preceded always by solemn self-examination.

13. *Of the Christian Sabbath.*—That the first day of the week is the Lord's day, or Christian Sabbath, and is to be kept sacred to religious purposes, by abstaining from all secular labor and recreations; by the devout observance of all the means of grace, both private and public; and by preparation for the rest which remaineth for the people of God.

14. *Of Civil Government.*—That civil government is of divine appointment,

for the interest and good order of human society; and that magistrates are to be prayed for, conscientiously honored and obeyed, except in things opposed to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the only Lord of the conscience, and the Prince of the Kings of the earth.

15. *Of the Righteous and the Wicked.*—That there is a radical and essential difference between the righteous and the wicked; that such only as through faith are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and sanctified by the spirit of our God, are truly righteous in his esteem; while all such as continue in impenitence and unbelief are in his sight wicked, and under the curse, and this distinction holds among men both in and after death.

16. *Of the World to Come.*—That the end of this world is approaching; that at the last day Christ will descend from heaven and raise the dead from the grave to final retribution; that a solemn separation will then take place; that the wicked will be adjudged to endless punishment, and the righteous to endless joy, and that this judgment will fix forever the final state of men in heaven or hell, on principles of righteousness.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	POST OFFICES.	Day of meeting.	DELEGATES.	Baptized	Received by letter	Dismissed by letter	Excluded	Restored	Dead.	Total in fellowship	For minutes.	Colored.
Amaziah.....	W. L. Farmer	Cornersville	2	W. L. Reynolds, S. Reynolds,* A. G. Perry	51	5	1	5	4	1	132		
Antioch.....	Not represented.	Rocky Ford	3	P. M. Richardson, W. G. Owen, J. D. Flicher									
Bethel, Pontotoc Co.....	T. Gorley	Oxford	4	M. G. Knight, A. Wilson, W. S. Wooten			5	2			99		
Bethel, Lafayette Co.....	R. H. Whitehead	Lafayette Springs	4	F. M. Fore,* N. H. Ward, W. P. Goolsby	3	13	11				66		
Cypress Creek.....	W. H. Finley	Cherry Creek	1	L. Ball, J. T. Pitts, D. J. Smith							58		
Friendship.....	L. Ball	Pontotoc	1	G. W. Sauter, J. W. Simpson, W. J. Austin	36	6	3	2		1	161		1
Liberty.....	J. T. Pitts	Tardville	1	Jas. Boswell, S. H. Plans, B. J. Caldwell	23	10	1	1	1		17		1
Mt. Pleasant.....	J. B. Gambrel	Waterville	4	J. B. Gambrel, J. Smith, A. J. Hall	29	2	5	4	2	125	13		6
Mt. Pisgah.....	H. L. Finley	Cornersville	3	S. C. Barden, J. F. Stocks, C. B. Williams	1	1	3	2			86		
Macdonia.....	Not represented.	Pontotoc	1	R. Adkins, H. Pitts, Jas. Smith									
New Hope.....	A. B. Smith	Malho	1	J. K. Guiton,* J. B. Gambrel, W. S. Greer	2	5	10	3	3		72		
Pleasant Ridge.....	J. B. Gambrel	Malho	4	J. A. Robbins, G. W. Hall, J. J. Riggs			7	1			117		
Pleasant Hill.....	J. Smith	Malho	2	H. Pritchard, W. H. Jones,* J. Baker*			5	7	1	2	106		
Philadelphia.....	H. L. Finley	Rocky Ford	1	Jas. Crosley, T. Gorley,* J. W. Crossley			2	14	1	1	138		8
Piney Grove.....	T. Gorley	Tocopoloo	1	B. B. Barmore,* W. L. Sauter, J. M. Barksdale			8	12	1	1	77		
Spring Hill.....	D. J. Smith	Pontotoc	3	W. R. Golding, M. Morgan, H. M. Gains	8	10	10	1	1		63		1
Spring Creek.....	W. L. Reynolds	Watford	4	E. Browning,* E. Y. Reeves,* A. Siettel*	8	8	10	10	1		63		
Spring Grove.....	E. Brawney	Cherry Creek	1	W. W. Finley, H. L. Finley, G. U. Hampton			5	7	1	1	44		
Stacy Grove.....	J. Crosley	Lafayette Springs	1	W. L. Farmer, J. E. Bourwright, A. R. Glen	10	10	9	5	2	2	74		
Temperance Hill.....	W. L. Farmer	Holly Springs	3	H. Kirk,* S. A. Webb, J. H. Morgan	4	9	5	2	1	4	106		
Trinity.....	Not represented.	Holly Springs	2	J. M. Hobbs, W. A. Smith, J. H. Huey	8	7	4	2	1	54			3
Union.....	W. W. Finley	Abbeville	4	A. T. Eryant, S. Fulton,* S. Davenport*	14	8			2		48		
Hopewell.....	H. L. Finley	Paris	4	M. Martin,* W. H. Cooper,* J. Richey	13	13			1		36		
El Bethel.....	Jas. Crosley	Tocopoloo	4	J. P. Feilther, J. V. Nunley, P. H. Merritt	11	11	2	2			48		
Carey Spring.....	H. Pritchard	Abbeville	2	F. Sauter, R. East, W. Murphy	2	2					57		
Midway.....	W. W. Finley	Tocopoloo	2		2	2					21		
Tocopoloo.....	W. W. Finley	Tocopoloo	3		3								

* Absent.



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