

MINUTES
OF THE
FOURTEENTH SESSION
OF THE
ALACHUA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

HELD WITH THE
OCALA CHURCH,

Ocala, Marion Co., Florida, October 27th & 29th,

1860.

OCALA, FLORIDA :

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1860.

MINUTES.

The Fourteenth Session of the ALACHUA ASSOCIATION was held with the Baptist Church at Ocala, commencing on Saturday, October 27th, 1860.

The Introductory Sermon was delivered by Elder Jos. S. BAKER, from I Thessalonians, iv: 1—"Furthermore, then we beseech you, brethren, and exhort you by the Lord Jesus, that as ye have received of us how ye ought to walk and to please God, so ye would abound more and more."

After partaking of refreshments, the Delegates from the different Churches convened, and, after singing and prayer, presented Letters from their respective Churches, which were read, and the names of the Delegates enrolled.

Petitionary letters being called for, the following were presented and read: One from the Baptist Union Church, Orange county; one from Sand Pond Church, Levy county; and one from the Church at Spring Branch, Hernando county. On motion, those Churches were received into this body, and the Moderator extended to their delegates the right hand of fellowship.

The Delegates then elected, by acclamation, Elder DANIEL EDWARDS, Moderator, C. S. REYNOLDS, Clerk, A. GEIGER, Treasurer, and Elder J. H. BREAKER, Corresponding Secretary.

A Committee on Preaching was then appointed, consisting of brethren F. Whitmire, Allen Gibson, A. Geiger, John E. Williams and John Curry.

The Moderator also appointed a Committee on Church Letters and other business, consisting of brethren J. H. Breaker, F. C. Johnson, R. N. Pylant, W. B. Miller and S. T. Stanaland.

A Committee on Finance was appointed, consisting of brethren J. Nevitt, H. Harvard and E. T. Geiger.

A call was made for correspondents, whereupon Elder William Johnson presented a certificate of appointment of Elders Jos. S. Baker, Wm. Johnson and T. J. Wombwell, as messengers from the Santa Fe River Association, and, on motion, they were received as such messengers, and invited to participate in the business of the Association.

On motion, adjourned to meet on Monday morning, at 9 o'clock. Prayer by Elder W. B. Miller.

On Sabbath morning, at half-past 9 o'clock, a Prayer-meeting was held at the Church. At 11 o'clock Elder J. H. Breaker preached before a large and attentive audience, on the subject of

missions, after which a collection was taken up for the support of missions within the bounds of the Association. Amount contributed, \$70 14. Elder S. T. Stanaland preached to the blacks, in the Methodist Church, followed by brother Joshua Perry.

In the afternoon, the pulpit was ably and we trust profitably filled by Elders F. C. Johnson and W. B. Miller. Elder Daniel Edwards preached at night, with evident good effect.

MONDAY MORNING, 9 o'clock.

After Divine worship, the names of the Delegates were called. The Minutes of Saturday were read and approved.

Called for Circular Letter—none was presented.

The Moderator then appointed an Executive Committee, consisting of brethren John M. Taylor, C. S. Reynolds, Allen Gibson, M. Alexander and F. Whitmire.

Elder J. H. Breaker was appointed to write the next Circular Letter.

Appointed Elder J. H. Breaker to preach the introductory Sermon at our next association—Elder W. B. Miller, Alternate.

Elder F. C. Johnson was appointed to preach on the subject of Missions, at our next session of the Association—Elder Daniel Edwards, Alternate.

Appointed as our Messengers to the Florida Association, brethren F. C. Johnson, H. Harvard, and W. B. Miller.

Appointed brethren S. T. Stanaland, A. Geiger, and A. M. Geiger, as our Messengers to the Santa Fe River Association.

Appointed the following brethren Delegates to the Florida Baptist State Convention: Elder Daniel Edwards, Elder J. H. Breaker, and E. T. Geiger.

On motion, Resolved that all the Churches represented in this Association be requested to set apart Friday before the first Sabbath in January, A. D. 1861, as a day of fasting and prayer to Almighty God for an outpouring of His Spirit upon the hearts of His children, and the people at large, within the bounds of this Association.

Appointed Union Meetings to be held on Friday before the fifth Sabbath in March, 1861, with the Church at Fort Clark, Alachua county, with the Oclawaha Bridge Church, in Marion county, and with the Church at Tampa, in Hillsborough county, to which the neighboring Churches are requested to send Letters and Delegates, and there appoint other Meetings, to be held with sister Churches desiring such appointments.

Called for and received the report of the Committee on Church Letters and other business, which was read and adopted. See Appendix A.

The following resolution in reference to the suggestion made by the Union Church at Brooksville, was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That we adopt the suggestion of the Union Church at Brooksville, and hereby instruct our Corresponding Secretary to

open a correspondence with the Corresponding Secretary of the Domestic Mission Board, at Marion, Ala., and ascertain on what terms they will co-operate with us in sustaining Missionaries within the bounds of our Association.

It was also Resolved, That the Executive Committee be and is hereby empowered, in connection with our Corresponding Secretary, to enter into such arrangements with the Domestic Mission Board, at Marson, Ala., as may be necessary to carry out the intention of the above resolution.

The report of the Committee on Finance was then called for, read and adopted. See Appendix B.

It was resolved that we most earnestly urge upon all our Churches to organize Sabbath Schools within their bounds, where practicable, and to report, in their letters to this body, the number of Teachers and Pupils in each School, and the number of volumes in their Sabbath School Library.

On motion, resolved, that the ministers, officers and members of this body, shall consider it their imperative duty and blessed privilege to engage prayerfully, with their utmost energy, in collecting, through their Churches and communities, the most liberal contributions to aid in sustaining the missionary cause within the bounds of our Association.

On motion, agreed to have eight hundred copies of the Minutes of this Session of the Association printed and distributed among the Churches.

On motion, it was agreed to pay the Clerk twenty dollars for his services.

The following resolution was then offered by Elder J. H. Breaker, and being seconded, was unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That we extend a cordial invitation to Rev. A. B. CABANISS, of the China Mission, who is now traveling in this country for the recruit of his health, to visit the Churches within our bounds, and communicate such intelligence, in reference to China and its evangelization, as he may deem best calculated to awaken an interest in the Mission in which he is engaged.

Resolved, That the Clerk be instructed to furnish a copy of the above Resolution to the Corresponding Secretaries of the Foreign Mission Board, at Richmond, Va., with a request that they would communicate the same to Bro. CABANISS.

On motion, the Clerk of the Association was requested to print the Minutes, and distribute them among the Churches.

On motion, the Clerk was requested by the Association, to return thanks to the brethren and friends of this vicinity, through the columns of his paper, for their generous hospitalities to the Delegates and visitors during this session of the Association, and to our Methodist brethren for the privilege of occupying their house of worship on this occasion.

Minutes read and approved.

On motion, adjourned, to meet with Beulah Church, in Putnam Co., on Saturday before the Fourth Sabbath in October, 1861.

Prayer by Elder J. H. Breaker.

DANIEL EDWARDS, Moderator.

C. S. REYNOLDS, Clerk.

DIGEST OF LETTERS.

APOPEA.—This Church hails with joy the return of our Associational meeting, but has no glad tidings of ingathering souls to communicate. Nevertheless, they rejoice on many accounts, and in particular, for the Gospel truths which are proclaimed to them once every month, in power and simplicity, by their beloved Pastor, Elder W. B. Miller.

BEULAH.—They are in peace and harmony, and have abundant reasons to be thankful to our Heavenly Father for the visitation of His Holy Spirit, during the past year. Fifteen members have been received by baptism, two candidates unbaptised, and the good work still in progress. They have the Gospel preached to them once in each month by Elder S. T. Stanaland. The next session of the Association will be held with this Church.

EDEN.—This Church is without a Pastor, and the members are in a cold state—have had preaching but a few times during the year. They ask: "Shall we have to live without preaching the next year? Can't you manage to send us a Preacher, to preach to us and to other destitute Churches?" There is a large field here, and but few laborers.

EPHESUS.—This Church has received no additions to its membership this year—asks for a letter of dismission, to unite with the Santa Fe River Association.

FELLOWSHIP.—They have reason to be thankful for the renewed tokens of God's love. They report: "We are still endeavoring to keep the ordinances of the Lord's house—have the steady labors of our beloved brother, A. M. Geiger, through whose labors, as an instrument, we have had some additions to our membership. * * But we have been visited with the messenger Death. Our much esteemed and beloved brother, WILLIAM CONNELL, has been called to give an account of his stewardship. Though the loss is great to the Church, we rejoice in believing that it is his gain."

FORT CLARK.—Under the regular ministry of Elder R. M. Perry, this Church has enjoyed a high degree of prosperity. A goodly

number have been added to their membership. They express their sympathy and desire to co-operate with the Association.

FORT MCKOY.—They express thankfulness for the privilege of participating in another Associational meeting. Elder R. M. Perry is their present able and efficient Pastor. During the past year, eight persons have been added to the Church by baptism, upon profession of their faith in Christ.

GOOD HOPE.—The letter from this Church opens with a lamentation for the desolation of Zion, and concludes as follows: "We are reduced, by death and removal, so low that we are not able to keep house, as a Church, for God any longer—being only four in number; three whites and one black; only one male member. We have no preaching. We therefore wish you to strike us out of your list of Churches, that we may take letters and unite with other Churches."

INDIAN SPRING.—They are thankful for the pleasant privilege and duty of once more participating in an Associational meeting, and earnestly pray that the present meeting may be to the glory of God and for the welfare of man. They have the stated and acceptable services of Elder N. P. Hotchkiss—are at peace among themselves, and enjoy some tokens of Divine love.

LAKE BRYANT.—They are without a Pastor, but have had some preaching by Elder S. T. Stanaland and the Methodist Circuit Preacher. They are at peace among themselves, but deplore the difficulty still existing between them and the (formerly) Mt. Hope Church. No additions to their membership reported.

LONG POND.—This Church is in a destitute region, in Levy county, without a Pastor or any one to proclaim to them the cheering truths of the Gospel. They ask for a Missionary.

MOUNT ZION.—The members are at peace among themselves, but a spiritual coldness prevails. They have had very little preaching. They have called brother Joshua Perry to be their Pastor, and express a wish to have him ordained at the Association.

NEW HOPE.—Peace and brotherly love prevail among the members of this Church, but they complain of spiritual coldness. They state: "We greatly need a settled Minister among us, and we are sure that the Church and congregation will be liberal with their means in support of one. We have had no regular Pastor this year. Our brother, C. S. Reynolds, has supplied us twice a month for the most part of the year. We have no additions to report—have an interesting Sabbath School and Bible Class.

OAK GROVE.—They have experienced some refreshing times during the past year, and additions have been made to their number. Some difficulties appear to exist among them at present, but they look to the Lord to help them through.

OCLALA.—The Association met with this Church. They complain that coldness and barrenness has attended them. In common with too many of our Churches, they have not been refreshed from on high. They ask the prayers of the brethren, that another year may not find them so lukewarm and lifeless. It has been their misfortune to lose the ministrations of their beloved brother, C. B. Jones—are at present supplied by Elder G. S. Reynolds.

OCLAWAHA BRIDGE.—The letter from this Church testifies that "Love to the brethren," that great test of Christian discipleship, burns in the hearts of the members, and their prayers go up to the great Head of the Church, that the acts of the Association may be honorable to God and promotive of His glory in the earth. During the past year, this Church has realized some tokens of Divine favor, for which they have been thankful.

PENIEL.—The experience of this Church, during the past year, has been made up of good and ill. They have enjoyed a special season of Divine grace, and their membership has increased. They ask for a letter of dismission, to unite with the Santa Fe River Association.

SAND POND.—This Church, recently constituted, in Levy county, applies for admission into this Association. They report: "We have been living for years in the dark recesses of Levy county, without a gleam of hope in regard to our immortal interests; but we are made to rejoice at this moment, that the Star of Glory has at last shone upon us, and light has sprung up where, for so long a time, we have been without hearing even one sermon preached." Elder A. M. Geiger has been preaching for them for some time past, and has immersed thirteen candidates this year.

SPRING BRANCH.—This is a new Church, in Hernando county—sends a petitionary letter, asking to be received into the membership of the Association, and promises a strict conformity to the rules and regulations thereof. They hope some provision will be made for them to have preaching in that destitute section. They have been visited a few times by Elder J. M. Hayman, but have had no regular preaching.

STAFFORD'S POND.—They are at peace with one another, and, although they have experienced no special outpouring of the Holy Spirit, they are led to rejoice at the ingathering which has taken

place in the adjoining neighborhood, under the labors of their beloved brother, A. M. Geiger. They have preaching once a month by brother A. M. Geiger, and quarterly by their Pastor, D. Edwards.

TAMPA.—They have enjoyed the ministerial services of Elder J. M. Hayman during the last year, and have had several accessions to their Church. Their Sabbath School, which is very interesting, is still in successful operation.

TENOTASASSA.—The members of this Church are at peace among themselves, but have enjoyed no special manifestation of a Revival spirit since the last session of the Association. They have had preaching monthly by Elder J. M. Hayman. One member added to their number by baptism.

UNION, (Hernando Co.)—This Church reports as follows:—"Though we have no cheering intelligence to communicate of the outpouring of God's Spirit in our midst, we yet rejoice in the manifestation of Divine favor in our behalf. No serious trials have been our lot; no spiritual calamities have befallen us; but the mercies of God have been freely lavished upon us. We are not, however, without fear that too much apathy and coldness exist in our midst, and the absence of the Revival spirit may be in consequence of our too much conformity to the world. But we pray for more uncompromising faith and the spirit of entire consecration to the services of our blessed Redeemer. We still enjoy the regular services of our beloved brother, Elder J. H. Breaker.

UNION, (Orange Co.)—This Church was constituted in July last, and now presents a petition for membership in the Association.—Elder W. B. Miller is their Pastor.

WACAHOOTA.—This Church has lost one member by death, during the past year—otherwise their membership remains the same as last year. They are supplied on the second and fourth Sabbaths in each month by Elder F. G. Johnson, of Micanopy.

APPENDIX.

A.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CHURCH LETTERS AND OTHER BUSINESS.

Your Committee on Church Letters and other business, beg leave to report :

Inasmuch as the suggestion from the Union Church at Brooksville, on the subject of Missions, is receiving the attention of the Association, as a body, we deem it unnecessary to report on that subject, as a Committee.

With reference to the request of the Lake Bryant Church, for the appointment of a Committee by the Association, to labor in restoring peace between them and a sister Church ; your Committee are of the opinion the Association have no right to appoint Committees to restore peace between Churches, but recommend to the aggrieved Church that they invite council from their nearest sister Churches.

Your Committee recommend that the request of the Ephesus Church, of Nassau county, for a letter of dismission, be granted.

Your Committee also recommend that the request of the Peniel Church, of Putnam county, for a letter of dismission, be granted.

Your Committee find, from the letters, but one application for the next meeting of the Association, to wit: the Beulah Church, of Putnam county. We recommend the next session of the Association to be held with them.

Your Committee recommend that a Digest of the Letters from the Churches be made out by the Clerk, and printed in the Minutes. Respectfully submitted.

J. H. BREAKER, Chairman.

B.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

Your Committee on Finance beg leave to report: We have examined the Treasurer's books, and find them correct.

We find a balance in the Treasury of	\$80 56
Sent by Letter,	140 15
Collected on Sabbath,	70 14

Total amount, \$240 85

H. HARVARD,
Chairman.



STATE OF THE CHURCHES.

CHURCHES.	COUNTIES.	DELEGATES.	PASTORS.	POST-OFFICE.	Baptised,	Rec'd by Let.	Restored.	Dismissed.	Expelled,	Deceased,	Whites,	Colored,	Total.	Contributions	Sabbaths of Meeting.
1 Apopka,	Orange,	By Letter,	W. B. Miller,	Mellonville,	11		2	1	1	1	22		22	\$2 00	4th
2 Beulah,	Putnam,	G. C. Priest,	S. T. Stanaland,	Silver Spring,							30	5	35	5 65	
3 Eden,	Hernando,	James Hayman,											15	1 00	
4 Ephesus,*	Nassau,	By Letter,									8	16	24	1 00	
5 Fellowship,	Marion,	A. Geiger, H. H. Hudgens,	A. M. Geiger,		3		1			1	20	11	31	5 75	3d
6 Fort Clark,	Alachua,	E. T. Geiger, R. F. Lineberger,	R. M. Perry,												2d
7 Fort McKoy,	Marion,	S. T. STANALAND, W. T. Carleton,	R. M. Perry,		8		1	3	1	1	47		49	4 00	
8 Good Hope,	"	Allen Fort,									3	1	4		
9 Indian Spring,	"	M. J. Chitty, L. S. Hendricks,	N. P. Hotchkiss,	Silver Spring,	1	1	1		2	1	13	25	38	3 00	
10 Lake Bryant,	"	H. Stanaland,									16	4	20	50	
11 Long Pond,	Levy,	E. Tucker,		Bronson,							9	2	11	1 00	
12 Mt. Zion,	Sumpter,	J. M. Thompson, D. Hutchinson,												3 50	
13 New Hope,	Marion,	Allen Gibson, William Lucius,		Ocala,				5			26	35	61	17 50	1st & 3d
14 Oak Grove,	Sumpter,	<i>Joshua Perry</i> , W. W. Caruthers,	W. B. Miller,		3	1		1	1		26		26	1 70	2d
15 Ocala,	Marion,	C. S. REYNOLDS, F. Whitmire,		Ocala,	2	4		5			28	66	94	14 00	2d & 4th
16 Ocalawaha Bridge,	"	J. H. Herndon, J. T. Hull,	S. T. Stanaland,		2	4		2			28	7	35	6 50	
17 Peniel,*	Putnam,	P. R. Cannon,	Wm. Johnson,		6				1		35	3	38	3 65	
18 Sand Pond,†	Levy,	Thomas Brooks,									14		14	3 00	2d
19 Spring Branch,†	Hernando,	By Letter,									16		16	8 25	
20 Stafford's Pond,	Marion,	D. EDWARDS, Jonathan Tyner,	D. Edwards,		12	3		13	2		25	1	26	8 00	
21 Tampa,	Hillsboro'	Robert N. Pylant,	J. M. Hayman,	Tampa,	17						27	18	45	14 20	2d & 4th
22 Tenotassassa,	"	By Letter,	J. M. Hayman,		1						21		21	5 00	3d
23 Union,	Hernando,	J. H. BREAKER, J. Nevitt,	J. H. Breaker,	Pierceville,	2	1		2	3		24	25	49	2 00	
24 Union,†	Orange,	W. B. MILLER, John Curry,	W. B. Miller,	Lake Griffin,	1	1					10	32	42	5 50	3d
25 Wacahoota,	Marion,	H. Harvard,	F. C. Johnson,	Micanopy,						1	24	4	28	1 00	2d & 4th

* Dismissed. † Admitted this Session. Ordained Ministers names in Small Capitals—Licentiate in Italics