

MINUTES
OF THE
FORTIETH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
ALACHUA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

HELD WITH STETSON LIBRARY
PINE LEVEL CHURCH,
SUMTER COUNTY, FLORIDA,

OCTOBER 23^D, 24TH & 25TH, 1886.

OFFICERS.

ELD. W. B. HARE, MODERATOR, *Sumterville, Fla.*
BRO. E. H. RENNOLDS, SR., CLERK, *Orange Home, Fla.*
BRO. W. R. MATHEWS, TREASURER, *Leesburg, Fla.*

CHARLESTON, S. C.
WALKER, EVANS & COGSWELL, PRINTERS,
Nos. 3 and 5 Broad and 117 East Bay Streets.
1887.

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ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Introductory Sermon.
2. Read Letters from Churches.
3. Elect Officers.
4. Petitionary Letters.
5. Invite Visiting Brethren to Seats.
6. Letters of Correspondence.
7. Appointment of Special Committees.
8. Reports of Standing Committees.
9. Treasurer's Report.
10. Appointment of Standing Committees.
11. Reports of Special Committees.
12. Fix Time and Place of Next Meeting.
13. Miscellaneous Business.
14. Read and Correct Minutes.
15. Adjournment.

MINUTES.

PINE LEVEL CHURCH, October 23d, 1886.

The fortieth session of the Alachua Baptist Association assembled as above, at 11 o'clock, A. M.

Prayer was offered by Elder G. W. Hall.

The introductory sermon was preached by Elder L. C. Musick, of Bear Creek Association, Mo. Text: 1st Cor. iii. chapter and 6th verse: "*I have planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase.*"

Prayer by Elder Joshua Perry.

Adjourned one hour for refreshments.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Association reassembled at 2 o'clock, P. M.

Prayer by Elder L. C. Musick.

The Association was then called to order by the former Moderator (Elder W. B. Hare).

The letters from the several churches were then read by Bros. G. W. Hall and F. S. Yager, and the messengers' names enrolled as follows:

1. Brooksville—J. B. Law.
2. Center Hill—Elder W. J. Hughes.
3. Cool Spring—*By Letter only.*
4. Crystal River—*By Letter only.*
5. Eden—J. M. Hedick, J. F. Hedick.
6. Equity—W. P. Ebbs, J. J. Phillips.
7. Harmony—J. J. Brown, W. E. Martin.
8. Lake Kerr—S. L. Griggs.
9. Lake Weir—Elders J. C. Porter and W. B. Carson, D. D.
10. Lecanto—Elder Geo. Frederick, J. Y. Barnes.
11. Leesburg—J. H. Richards, J. E. Borders, F. S. Yager.
12. Midway—E. H. Rennolds, Sr., S. P. Stephens.
13. New Hope—P. W. Whiteside, J. S. Perry, Sr.
14. Oclawaha Bridge—Joe Stanaland, W. T. Henderson, J. P. Holly.
15. Pleasant Plains—J. W. Perkins.
16. Pine Level—W. J. Dodson, J. J. Williams, S. K. Revels, R. H. Smith, A. J. Perry, R. G. Hood.
17. Sardis—A. B. Wilkerson, C. B. Perry.
18. Shady Grove—W. G. Austin, S. T. Cason.
19. Sumterville—Elder W. B. Hare, A. H. Helvenston.
20. Union Level—L. L. Aiken, Joe Aiken.
21. Wildwood—G. W. Huntsman, W. W. Caruthers.
22. Belleview—Benj. McDonald, Peter T. Miller, W. A. Wheaton.

The Association then proceeded to organize permanently, by re-electing Elder W. B. Hare, Moderator, and E. H. Rennolds, Sr., Clerk.

The following Committees were then appointed, to wit:

- Divine Service—J. E. Borders, and the Pastor and Deacons of Pine Level Church.
- Finance—G. W. Huntsman, J. M. Hedick, R. H. Smith.
- Sunday-schools—F. S. Yager, L. L. Aiken, R. G. Hood.
- Missions—L. C. Musick, S. K. Revels, W. W. Caruthers.
- Letters and Queries—Geo. Frederick, J. B. Law, W. J. Dodson.
- Periodicals—J. J. Williams, J. E. Borders, J. C. Porter.
- Temperance—G. W. Hall, W. T. Henderson, S. P. Stephens.
- Deceased Ministers and Deacons—J. H. Richards, E. H. Rennolds, Sr., J. Y. Barnes.
- Woman's Work—A. E. Cloud, J. J. Brown, G. W. Huntsman.
- Ministerial Education—W. J. Hughes, I. W. Perkins, Wm. Paul.

The Committee on Divine Service reported as follows:

To preach to-night at Pine Level Church, Elder W. J. Hughes.
 At Pleasant Grove School-house, Elder W. B. Carson,
 At 9 o'clock A. M., to-morrow, Sunday-school mass meeting.
 At 11 o'clock A. M., missionary sermon, Elder J. H. Curry.

Adjourned to meet at 9 o'clock A. M., Monday.

SATURDAY NIGHT.

Elder W. J. Hughes preached at 7 o'clock P. M. Text: John, 3d Chapter, and 18th verse: "*He that believeth on Him is not condemned; but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.*"

On motion, Elder W. J. Hughes was called to act as Moderator *pro tem*.

A letter was read from Belleview Church, (constituted by Elders W. N. Chaudoin and W. J. Hughes, on the second Sabbath in August,) asking admission into our body.

The Church was on motion received, and the right hand of fellowship extended to her messengers by the Moderator.

Adjourned till 9 o'clock A. M. Monday.

Benediction by the Moderator.

SABBATH.

A Sabbath-School mass meeting was held at 9 o'clock A. M., and was addressed by Bro. F. S. Yager and Elder A. W. Peck.

At 11 o'clock A. M. Elder J. H. Curry preached the Annual Missionary Sermon. Text: Matthew. 6th Chapter, and 10th verse: "*Thy Kingdom Come.*" After which a collection was taken up for missions, amounting to \$40.34.

After partaking of a bountiful repast, a meeting in the interest of the Woman's Missionary Societies was held in the meeting-house, and addressed by Elder N. A. Bailey, and a children's meeting was held in the grove, and addressed by Elder G. W. Hall.

At night Elder L. C. Musick preached at the Church. Text: Acts, 2d Chapter, and 38th verse, and Elder G. W. Hall preached at Watulla.

MONDAY.

The Association assembled at 9 o'clock A. M.

Prayer was offered by Bro. L. L. Aiken.

Read, corrected and approved the Minutes of Saturday and Sabbath.

Invited Corresponding Messengers from other bodies to seats with us. The following brethren accepted: Elder N. A. Bailey, of Marion Association, also Vice-President of the Foreign Mission Board, member of the State Board of Missions, and Assistant Editor of the *Florida Baptist Witness*; Elder G. W. Hall, of Santa Fee River Association, and Children's Missionary of the State Convention, and Bro. H. H. Hudgens, of Marion Association.

- Bro. G. W. Hall read the following:

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

Your Committee on Temperance beg leave to offer the following:

We are glad to report that we believe the Temperance reform is gaining ground within the bounds of this Association, as well as throughout all our country. But there is still much for God's people to do before we can hope that the great evil of intemperance will be driven from our land. Therefore we suggest that the following resolutions be adopted and put into execution:

✓ *Resolved*, That we cannot consistently pray and offer the petition of the Lord's Prayer: "Thy Kingdom Come!" while we support men at the ballot-box, who are in favor of the liquor traffic.

Resolved, That we vote as we pray, and pray as we vote, that the manufacture, sale and use of intoxicating drinks be driven from our land, because this is one of the greatest foes to the spread of the Gospel, and the coming of Christ's Kingdom into the world, that the people of God have to contend against.

✓ *Resolved*, That we use our influence to elect such men to office as will favor the passage of such laws as will abolish the liquor traffic from our land.

Respectfully submitted,

G. W. HALL,
W. T. HENDERSON, } Committee.
S. P. STEPHENS,

✓ Remarks were made by Bros. A. H. Helvenston, N. A. Bailey, L. C. Musick, G. W. Hall, F. S. Yager, J. C. Porter, W. B. Hare and George Frederick and adopted.

On motion of E. H. Rennolds, Sr., speeches were limited to five minutes each.

✓ Bro. F. S. Yager read the report on Sunday-Schools, as follows:

REPORT ON SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.

✓ Your Committee find, on examination of the Church Statistics for the past Associational year, that there are in the Association 13 Sunday-Schools, 12 Baptist and one Union school. In these there are 578 persons enrolled, with 87 officers and teachers. Of these schools there are eight that are evergreen, or hold forth every month in the year. We find six churches in the bounds of this Association without Sunday-schools.

✓ While we feel encouraged at the present condition of the churches in this respect, we would be rejoiced to see all of our churches sustaining flourishing Sunday-schools. We would recommend to the

brethren in the churches without schools, to organize them at once, and support them. Too much importance cannot be attached to the Sunday-school work and influence. It is the nursery of the church, and from it the churches draw their supply of trained workers that make active and useful members. We therefore deem it the duty of every member of the church, that is not feeble or infirm, to attend and work in the Sunday-school. None are too old. We advise the formation of adult classes, of classes for the old and for the young. This work we regard as of paramount importance.

In conclusion, allow us to urge upon all followers of the meek and lowly Saviour, that we consecrate ourselves anew to this precious and important work.

Your Committee further recommend that this body consider the propriety of putting a Sunday-school Evangelist in the field, to work up and organize Sunday-schools in this Association.

Respectfully submitted.

F. S. YAGER, }
L. L. AIKEN, } Committee.
R. G. HOOD, }

Pending a motion to adopt, remarks were made by Bros. J. C. Porter, E. H. Rennolds, Sr., G. W. Hall, F. S. Yager, R. G. Hood, N. A. Bailey, and A. H. Helvenston, and it was adopted.

Bro. L. C. Musick read the following report on

MISSIONS.

✓ DEAR BRETHREN: We feel that this subject is of such vast importance that no human tongue has ever described, nor has human mind ever grasped this subject in all its consequences, nor can we, till we fathom eternity, survey God's vast domain, view the glories of heaven, and awful doom of the lost. If we want directions, go to God's precious Word, lay ourselves, with all we have, on the altar of Christ, and we will find both the will and the way. If we want objects, the home and foreign fields come in for our aid, and the more we do for one, the more will we wish to do for all others.

In view of the great destitution, the worth of immortal souls, and the glory of God, we recommend that the churches raise at least one dollar for each member for missions during the present year. We also request that the churches set apart a special day to raise a church building fund.

Respectfully submitted.

L. C. MUSICK, }
S. K. REVELL, } Committee.
W. W. CARUTHERS, }

✓ On motion of Bro. J. C. Porter, Bro. N. A. Bailey was allowed thirty minutes in discussing the report. The report was then adopted.

Adjourned one hour for refreshments.

Prayer by Elder W. R. Coggins.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

✓ Reassembled at 2 o'clock P. M.

Prayer by Bro. R. G. Hood.

Bro. A. E. Cloud read the report on

WOMAN'S WORK.

✓ Christian duties are generally the same for all, irrespective of age, sex, or nationality. Love to God, a living faith in Jesus Christ, work-

ing obedience to his commands, should lead the servants of God, whether men, women or children, to do good unto all men as they have opportunity. The Scriptures speak of all true believers as "sons of God," according to the revealed truth, that in Christ there is neither male nor female.

Women were among the most devoted followers of the Saviour, while he toiled on earth, and they were recognized as efficient helpers to the truth during the apostolic days; and in the later history of the church, they have usually composed the larger number of members, and have been the more devout and faithful workers in the church. The Lord repeatedly expressed his appreciation of woman's work. It was of a woman's devotion that Jesus said: "Wherever this Gospel shall be preached in the whole world, that which this woman hath done shall be spoken of as a memorial of her."

The first and most important field of Christian labor for a woman is her own household. It is a homely proverb that "the hand that rocks the cradle rules the world;" but "train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it," is a heavenly precept, and the promise is, to the third and fourth generations the influence shall be felt. The Sunday-school opens up a most fruitful field for the exercise of Christian women. Pious, intelligent females make the best teachers for children, or for young men and ladies, in our Sunday-schools; a work worthy of the angels of heaven.

Women often make the best collectors of finances for church, missionary and charitable purposes. Churches and Sunday-schools would do well to employ and improve the gifts and talents which the Master has bestowed upon them in the additions of pious women to their organizations. Women's Missionary Societies and Bands have proved efficient auxiliaries to the great missionary work, at home and abroad, and we recommend that our sisters continue their labors of sacrifice and love, and that new societies be organized wherever it is practicable to do so.

Respectfully submitted.

A. E. CLOUD,
J. J. BROWN,
G. W. HUNTSMAN, } Committee.

* Remarks were made by Bro. R. G. Hood, and the report adopted.

E. H. Rennolds read the following:

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Your Committee would respectfully report that in accordance with the instructions given us at your last meeting, we employed Elder W. J. Hughes to preach one-half of his time. He has preached regularly at Belleview, Wildwood and Rutland's Ferry, and occasionally at other points. At Belleview the result has been the organization of a promising church, which has been admitted into your body. At Wildwood the church has been enabled to turn all her strength towards the securing a house of worship, and have a commodious and substantial edifice so far advanced as to ensure them a spiritual home. At Rutland's, while there are evidences of good being accomplished, an organization has not yet been effected.

Bro. H. H. Sturgis was employed for one-fourth of his time, (being also in the employ of the State Board for another one-fourth,) and has labored faithfully and laboriously in the destitute parts of Hernando County, preaching at Bayport, Rural School-house, Spring Hill, Floral City and Tompkinsville, and we confidently expect that several churches will sooner or later be gathered on his field of labor.

We herewith summarize the reports of both our Missionaries, and also our Treasurer, (Bro. W. R. Matthews.)

Bro. Hughes reports: Months employed, 11; miles traveled, 1,680; sermons preached, 50; family visits, 114; baptized, 3; received by letter, 5; churches supplied, 2; other stations, 4; churches constituted, 1; with a Sunday-School at each station. He reports many localities where Baptist preaching is acceptable and prospects good for the organization of several new churches, and urges upon the Association the importance of keeping alive the interest already aroused.

Bro. H. H. Sturgis reports as follows: Weeks labor, 38; sermons preached, 134; miles traveled, 1,402; prayer meetings held, 27; stations occupied, 8; baptisms, —; families visited, 125; Sunday-Schools organized, 1; Bibles and Testaments sold, 28; amount collected on field, \$62.88, half to be credited to Associational Board, \$31.44; amount paid by the Board, \$38.75; amount of pledges collected, \$42.50; total collections, \$112.69; amount due for ten month's services, \$97.50; balance overpaid, \$15.19.

Both Bros. Hughes and Sturgis were commissioned by the State Board. We recommend that in view of the faithful services of Bro. Sturgis, that the balance of \$15.19 overpaid him be added to his salary.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

W. R. Mathews, Treasurer, in Account with Alachua Association.

Dr.

To amount received from former Treasurer.....	\$10 00
“ “ “ at last Association.....	94 00
“ “ “ from Sunday's Collection at Association.....	12 00
“ “ “ “ “ “ Pine Level.....	8 20
“ “ “ “ “ “ Midway.....	9 11
“ “ “ “ “ “ Wildwood.....	1 25
“ “ “ “ “ “ Belleview.....	8 07
“ “ “ “ Elder H. H. Sturgis.....	44 10
To Amount Received on Pledges of W. J. Hughes.....	\$10 00
“ “ “ H. H. Sturgis.....	5 00
“ “ “ W. S. Grimes.....	5 00
“ “ “ J. B. Haralson.....	5 00
“ “ “ J. B. Law.....	5 00
“ “ “ H. G. Edwards.....	5 00
“ “ “ J. T. Perry.....	1 00
“ “ “ P. L. Durisoe.....	10 00
“ “ “ J. H. Richards.....	10 00
“ “ “ Miss Willie Barksdale.....	50
“ “ “ W. H. Fields.....	1 00
“ “ “ W. B. Edwards.....	5 00
“ “ “ G. T. L. Watson.....	1 00
“ “ “ C. B. Perry.....	50
“ “ “ Roan Smith.....	1 50
“ “ “ W. R. Mathews.....	5 00
“ “ “ Mrs. P. L. Durisoe.....	1 00
“ “ “ F. S. Holly.....	2 00
“ “ “ J. B. Higginbottom.....	7 50
“ “ “ E. M. Henderson.....	5 00
“ “ “ C. T. Henderson.....	1 00
“ “ “ W. B. Holly.....	2 00
“ “ “ I. P. Stephens.....	1 50
“ “ “ Joseph Stanaland.....	2 00
“ “ “ W. F. Barksdale.....	2 00
“ “ “ Wm. Lemond.....	1 00
“ “ “ S. A. Long.....	5 00
“ “ “ W. A. Wheaton.....	5 00

To Amount Received on Pledges of J. S. Perry, Sr.....	\$10 00
“ “ “ Mrs. R. G. Wright.....	5 00
“ “ “ O. S. Bogne.....	5 00
“ “ “ W. V. Peacock.....	50
“ “ “ R. D. McDonald.....	1 00
“ “ “ W. S. Jordan.....	10 00
“ “ “ J. M. Hedick.....	5 00
“ “ “ J. A. Marshall.....	5 00
“ “ “ Joshua Perry.....	5 00
“ “ “ W. R. Coggins.....	5 00
“ “ “ S. K. Revels.....	1 50
“ “ “ Unknown	1 00

Total amount received.....\$346 23
Cr.

By amount paid Clerk as salary.....	\$15 00
“ “ “ For Printing Minutes.....	35 00
“ “ “ Elder W. J. Hughes, Missionary	186 63
“ “ “ Elder H. H. Sturgis, Missionary.....	109 30
“ “ “ For Postage	30

Total amount disbursements.....\$346 23

Balance on hand.....

Our Committee was located so far apart that it has been almost impossible to get a quorum together. The removal to Tennessee, in May last, of our chairman (Bro. DeCourcy), has tended to retard the work of the Committee, and we recommend that the Committee for the ensuing year be located nearer together.

We recommend, also, that so much of the money sent up by the churches, and of the collection taken up yesterday, be used to pay the arrearages of Bro. Hughes' salary; and also, that the Committee be instructed to meet quarterly. Respectfully submitted.

E. H. RENNOLDS, SR.

J. T. PERRY.

The report was discussed by Bros. E. H. Rennolds, W. J. Hughes, J. C. Porter, N. A. Bailey and R. G. Hood. After which it was adopted, and the following pledges taken for the support of associational missions for the ensuing year, to wit :

E. N. Rennolds, Sr.....\$	5 00	Henry Carter	5 00
W. B. Hare.....	5 00	J. J. Phillips.....	2 00
J. E. Borders.....	5 00	R. H. Smith.....	5 00
J. T. Perry.....	5 00	A. D. Wilkeson.....	2 00
J. C. Porter.....	5 00	Joe Ensley.....	3 00
J. J. Williams.....	5 00	G. W. Huntsman (for Wild-	
W. J. Hughes.....	10 00	wood Ch.).....	5 00
J. H. Richards	5 00	W. G. Austin (for Shady	
Benj. McDonald.....	2 50	Grove Ch.).....	5 00
P. T. Miller.....	2 50	Brown Coggins.....	5 00
J. B. Law (paid).....	5 00	Mr. Gatlin	1 50
F. S. Yager.....	5 00	B. McDonald (for Bellevue	
Geo. Frederick.....	5 00	Ch.)	2 50
J. M. Hedick.....	5 00	Geo. Frederick (for Lecanto	
R. G. Hood.....	1 50	Ch.).....	2 50
J. S. Perry, Sr.....	10 00	W. T. Henderson (paid).....	1 50
J. J. Brown (of Harmony)...	1 50	Mrs. Alice Ebbs.....	1 50
S. P. Stephens.....	3 00		
L. L. Aiken.....	2 00		
W. J. Dodson.....	5 00		
			134 50

Pine Level Sunday-school, as follows :

Bro. Brinson.....	\$ 1 50	Nelia Perry.....	\$1 50
Sister Brinson.....	1 50	Freddie Bogue.....	1 50
Sister J. E. Webb.....	1 50	Pearl Murdock.....	1 00
Sister Diaz.....	1 50	G. R. Nichols.....	1 00
Cora J. Hood.....	1 50	S. D. Bailey.....	1 00
Addie Odell.....	1 50	Hattie Sparkman.....	1 00
May Smith.....	1 50	E. Diaz.....	5 00
C. E. Lucius.....	1 50	R. G. Hood.....	1 50
R. E. Wicker.....	50	Florence Crenshaw.....	1 00
J. H. Lane.....	1 50	Mrs. F. E. Perry.....	1 50
H. J. Gibson.....	1 50	O. S. Bogue.....	1 50
E. W. Hamson.....	1 00	Mr. Smith.....	1 50
E. Von Hood.....	1 50		
Lewis A. Caraway.....	2 00		\$43 50
T. M. Nichols.....	1 50		
Nora Bogue.....	1 50	Total.....	\$177 00
Geo. Moore.....	1 50		

The Executive Committee's report was then adopted.
 Bro. J. J. Williams read the following report on

PERIODICALS.

First of all, the nucleus around which our progress and love cluster, is our own *Florida Baptist Witness*. As a sound and faithful exponent of our peculiar tenets, and as a means of broadening and deepening our love to God, and to each other as Baptists, throughout the State, there is no paper that can take the place of the *Witness*. We urge the brethren throughout the Association to foster, with their money, that which our kind Father has enabled us to establish.

The *Christian Index* of Atlanta, Ga., cannot be praised too highly as a great Christian medium. It is healthy, vigorous and Christian to the hub. We would recommend it to those who desire to take more than one religious paper. Too much stress cannot be placed upon the importance of selecting sound Sunday School literature and able helps. We deem this paramount to all other departments of our Christian labor. We would recommend *Kind Words*, *The Child's Gem*, and the publications of the American Baptist Publication Society, and the Baptist Book Houses of St. Louis, Mo., and Memphis, Tenn.

In our Mission work, we recommend the *Foreign Mission Journal* and *Heathen Helper*, and last, but superior to all, is the great radiator, the Bible, for in it are the precious promises of eternal life.

J. J. WILLIAMS, }
 J. E. BORDERS, } Committee.
 J. C. PORTER, }

Pending a motion to adopt, remarks were made by Bros. G. W. Hall and N. A. Bailey, and a collection of \$4.55 taken up to send the *Witness* to needy widows and orphans, and the report adopted.

Bro. Geo. Frederick read the report on

LETTERS AND QUERIES.

We notice that the letters from the churches this year are wanting in much valuable information. Some clerks have used the blanks supplied by Bro. Chaudoin, but with one or two exceptions, they have not been properly filled out, and it will be impossible to get a true statement of our year's work from the letters. We advise that the clerks, or those appointed to write the Associational letters, be requested to be more explicit in the future.

From the letters, we learn that the following churches report Sabbath-Schools, to wit: Pleasant Plains, Leesburg, Midway, Eden, Union Level, Pine Level, Oclawaha Bridge, Sumterville, Belleview and Brooksville, which has two, one being at Spring Hill, Lecanto, Shady Grove and Lake Kerr, have Union Schools, and Harmony aids in three Union Sabbath-Schools.

We notice that Midway reports a Young Men's Prayer Meeting, and that Wildwood, Pine Level, Union Level, Shady Grove, Brooksville, Leesburg and Belleview, report weekly prayer meetings, and Oclawaha Bridge once a month. We would urge the brethren to be earnestly engaged in prayer, and in meeting together on the first day of the week.

We also notice with sorrow, that the churches have not reported the work done by the Ladies' Mission Societies and Children's Mission Bands. Can it be possible that these great helps to the cause, that every Baptist should love, have been neglected and permitted to die? Brethren and Sisters, we appeal to you, do not forget your duty to your Saviour's cause, and to the memory of one who devoted the last years of her life (Sister A. B. Bailey,) to this noble cause. Let us foster with more care the Mission cause among the sisters and children, and we urge upon the ministry to urge and help to organize these Societies in all their churches. We also notice that Midway, Eden and Sumterville report special revivals. Several report that they are in a live and growing condition and advancing in the cause, while some, as being in a lukewarm or cold condition, and they petition to be remembered in prayer by this body, and we recommend that special prayer be made for them by all the sister churches. We notice that Wildwood Church has been enabled to build a house of worship, and that Equity has one-half of the amount raised necessary to build, and we recommend that sister churches render such assistance as is possible in helping them to build.

From the reports we would say that upon the whole we are still on gaining ground, and there is great cause for thankfulness to the great Head of the Church for His blessings, and we urge that we make a more persistent effort in this year for a grand forward move in the cause.

Two churches request that this body meet with them, and we recommend that the next meeting be held with Leesburg Church.

Respectfully submitted,

GEO. FREDERICK,	} Committee.
J. B. LAW,	
W. J. DODSON,	

The report elicited remarks from Bros. J. C. Porter, W. J. Hughes, F. S. Yager and J. J. Brown, when it was adopted.

Bro. W. J. Hughes read the following report on

MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

While we as Baptists believe in a special call to the ministry, and that such only as have this special call will continue to preach the Gospel under all varying circumstances, at the same time we recognize the great necessity of an educated ministry. The age in which we live, in which the people at large are being educated, that other denominations are educating their ministers, demands of every young man who would enter the ministry, that he should be as thoroughly prepared as possible. An education gives position and commands respect among the higher classes, and by no means disqualifies for usefulness among the unlearned.

The great object of a classical education being to expand the mind, or lay a broad foundation, at once shows the necessity of those who would

study the Book of Books, and be a leader of God's hosts, to avail themselves of its advantages. Nor should we lose sight of a Theological Education. Its objects are at least two-fold. One to continue the expansion of the mind, and the other to give special instruction in God's Word. How to study the Bible most profitably, to explain difficult passages, instructing in pastoral duties, in short, specially to train for ministerial duties. Thus the beginner is permitted to start off almost with all the advantages gained by years of study and experience on the part of our Theological Professors.

Respectfully submitted,

W. J. HUGHES, }
J. W. PERKINS. } *Committee.*
WM. PAUL,

Bros. N. A. Bailey, W. J. Hughes, J. J. Williams, F. S. Yager and J. C. Porter discussed the report, and it was then adopted.
Bro. J. H. Richards read the following report on

DECEASED MINISTERS AND DEACONS.

We find by direct information that God has been pleased to call from the labors of earth, to the rest of heaven, during the Associational year, Deacon E. H. Johnson, of New Hope Church.

We extend to the sister church our deep sympathy, and trust that they may find that their loss is for God's glory, and the eternal gain of the deceased. We recommend that a memorial page be inserted in the minutes, with the name, and a suitable epitaph to his memory.

Respectfully submitted,

J. H. RICHARDS, *Chairman.*

Bro. G. W. Huntsman read the following report of the

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Received from the churches this year:

For General Purposes.....	\$ 40 45
For Associational Missions.....	12 85
For State Missions.....	4 00
For Home Missions.....	6 60
For Foreign Missions.....	17 72
Collection on Sabbath.....	40 34
Paid on pledges.....	6 50

Total.....\$128 46

Respectfully submitted,

G. W. HUNTSMAN, }
J. M. HEDICK, } *Committee.*
R. H. SMITH,

On motion of E. H. Rennolds, Bro. W. R. Matthews was re-elected Treasurer for the ensuing year.

The following Brethren were appointed the Executive Committee for the ensuing year, to wit: F. S. Yager, Chairman, Leesburg; E. H. Rennolds, Sr., Orange Home; G. W. Huntsman, Wildwood; J. T. Perry, Oxford, and L. L. Aiken, Heidsville.

The following messengers were appointed to the State Convention to meet at Gainesville, November 17th, 1886: J. C. Porter, E. H. Rennolds, Sr., W. B. Hare, W. J. Hughes, L. L. Aiken, F. S. Yager, J. M. Hedick, Geo. Frederick, Dr. E. C. Hood, and G. W. Huntsman.

Bro. J. C. Porter offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That any member of this body being present at any of our corresponding Associations, be requested to act as messenger.

Crystal River and Four Mile Churches having requested letters of dismission to unite with Marion Association, said requests are hereby granted.

Bro. J. C. Porter moved that Bro. R. G. Hood, of Pine Level Church, be appointed as Sunday-School Evangelist of the Association, and that the brotherhood be requested to contribute to him what in their hearts they see fit, to remunerate him for his time and traveling expenses. Adopted.

Bro. J. C. Porter moved that our ministers be requested to preach a sermon at each of their churches during the ensuing year, upon the proper observance of the Sabbath. Adopted.

On motion of Bro. W. J. Hughes, the Clerk was allowed \$15 for his services, and he was instructed to draw on the Treasurer for the amount necessary to have the minutes printed and distributed.

On motion of Bro. F. S. Yager, the next meeting of this body to convene at 9 o'clock A. M., on Friday instead of Saturday.

Elder J. C. Porter was selected to preach the next Introductory Sermon, with Elder W. J. Hughes as alternate.

Bro. J. J. Williams offered the following preamble and resolutions, which were unanimously adopted, to wit:

Whereas, Facts have come to this body affecting the moral and religious character of Bro. J. H. Curry, damaging to him as a minister of the Gospel, and to the cause of Christ, therefore,

Resolved, That it is the sense of this Association that Bro. Curry be requested to give a satisfactory explanation of these charges, and should show evidences of their falsity by a reformation in his Christian deportment. We recommend the church to which he belongs, to investigate these charges and see that he is properly dealt with.

Resolved, That the thanks of the messengers and visitors of this Association are due, and are hereby heartily tendered to the members of Pine Level Church, and the citizens of Oxford and surrounding community, for their generous hospitality in their kind entertainment of this Association, and also to the authorities of the F. R. & N. R. R., for kindness in passing messengers and visitors the round trip for one fare.

Read, corrected and adopted, the minutes of to day. The Association then sung that sacred old hymn "Blest be the tie that binds," and the messengers and visitors extended to each other the parting hand, and the Association adjourned to meet at Leesburg, at 9 o'clock A. M. on Friday before the 4th Sabbath in October, 1887.

Prayer by Elder N. A. Bailey.

E. H. RENNOLDS, SR., *Clerk*.

Signed,

W. B. HARE,
Moderator.

MINISTERS' POSTOFFICES.

W. B. Carson, D.D	Candler, Fla.
W. R. Coggins.....	Oxford, Fla.
Frank DeCourcy.....	Jackson, Tenn.
George Frederick	Mansfield, Fla.
A. B. Goodwin	Leesburg, Fla.
J. B. Haralson.....	Crystal River, Fla.
W. B. Hare.....	Sumterville, Fla.
W. J. Hughes.....	Webster, Fla.
J. P. Parker.....	Electra, Fla.
Joshua Perry	Oxford, Fla.
J. C. Porter	Lake Weir, Fla.
H. H. Sturgis.....	Wiscon, Fla.
G. M. T. Wilson.....	Cason, Fla.

LICENTIATE.

W. T. Henderson.....	Grahamville, Fla.
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In Memoriam.

Deacon E. H. JOHNSON,

OF

New Hope Church.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE CURRENT YEAR, OCTOBER, 1885, TO OCTOBER, 1886.

CHURCHES	Home Church Expenses.	Home Sunday School Exp'es.	Ministerial Education.	Bible and Publication Work.	Associational Missions.	State Missions.	Home Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Building and Loan Fund.	Miscellaneous.	Ministers' and Widows' Fund.	For Printing Minutes.	Total.
Brooksville	\$ 127 20	\$ 15 20	\$	\$ 12 65	\$	\$	\$ 71 14	\$ 26 00	\$	\$ 5 00	\$	\$ 2 00	\$ 259 19
Bellevue	17 10	.....	.....	.....	8 07	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3 00	20 17
Centre Hill .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1 00	1 00
Cool Spring .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1 00	1 00
Crystal River	35 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1 00	36 00
Eden	10 00	.....	.....	.....	15 00	7 00	1 00	5 22	.....	.....	.....	2 00	40 22
Equity	75 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1 35	.....	.....	.....	.....	45	76 80
Harmony	150 00	20 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2 00	172 00
Lake Kerr .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2 00	2 00
Lake Weir	400 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	51 80	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	30	451 30
Lecanto .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2 75	1 00	.....	.....	.....	1 00	4 75
Leesburg	1,095 00	30 00	.....	.....	.....	23 20	.....	.....	.....	16 00	10 25	3 00	1,177 45
Midway	140 45	.....	15 25	.....	.....	15 25	.....	.....	.....	8 80	.....	2 35	182 10
New Hope .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3 75	3 75
Oclawaha Bridge .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	44 00	2 46	.....	5 12	17 50	16 90	.....	4 50	90 48
Pleasant Plains .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1 50	1 50
Pine Level .....	.....	20 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2 50	22 50
Sardis .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1 25	1 25
Shady Grove .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	75	5 75
Sumterville	300 85	17 85	5 28	.....	.....	3 15	8 74	4 25	.....	.....	.....	2 10	342 22
Union Level .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2 00	2 00
Wildwood	328 00	.....	.....	.....	1 50	3 00	.....	.....	.....	10 00	.....	1 00	343 50
Public Collections .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	103 50	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	103 50
Totals	\$2,678 50	\$103 05	\$20 53	\$12 65	\$177 07	\$105 86	\$84 98	\$41 59	\$17 50	\$56 70	\$10 25	\$40 45	\$3,348 43

SUNDAY-SCHOOL RECORD.

Number.	CHURCHES.	SUPERINTENDENTS.	POST-OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENTS.	Number of Scholars. Officers and Teachers.	Scholars Enrolled.	Average Attendance.	Teachers Baptized Last Year.	Scholars Baptized Last Year.	No. of Volumes in Library.	No. Sunday-School Papers Taken.	Scholars over 15 Years of Age.	Number Months in Session.
1	Brooksville	{ W. S. Jordan..... J. B. Law.....	{ Brooksville..... Wiscon.....	2	15	60	35			40		12
2	Bellevue		Bellevue.....	1	8	25	23			20		4
3	Centre Hill											
4	Cool Spring											
5	Crystal River											
6	Eden	J. M. Hedick.....	Add	1	4	28	23		3	20	7	12
7	Equity	P. Vaughn.....	Lady Lake.....									
8	Harmony	{ W. E. Martin..... Jno. Lewis..... J. C. Pillows.....	{ Moss Bluff..... " "..... " ".....	3	15	95	75			50	50	7
9	Lake Kerr	S. L. Griggs.....	Kerr City.....	1	4	25	20			20	10	8
10	Lake Weir.....	C. F. Benson.....	N. Lake Weir.....	1	4	30	24			20	12	8
11	Lecanto											
12	Leesburg.....	F. S. Yager.....	Leesburg.....	1	9	53	36		3	60	30	12
13	Midway	E. H. Rennolds, Sr.....	Orange Home.....	1	9	58	33		14	40	33	12
14	New Hope.....											
15	Oclawaha Bridge.....	B. I. Hull.....	Grahamville.....	1	6	51	25		2	30	20	12
16	Pleasant Plains.....	B. I. Hull.....	"	1	3	22	18		1	25	8	11
17	Pine Level.....	O. S. Bogue.....	Oxford.....	1	12	75	63		12	40	35	12
18	Sardis.....											
19	Shady Grove.....											
20	Sumterville.....	A. H. Helvenston.....	Sumterville.....	2	10	69	49		3	40	26	12
21	Union Level.....	L. L. Aiken.....	Heidtsville.....	2	8	35	28			25	8	8
22	Wildwood.....											
	Totals.....			18	107	626	452		38	40	430	130

STATISTICS OF ALACHUA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, 1886.

Number.	CHURCHES.	COUNTY.	MEMBERSHIP.						Present Membership.	PASTOR.	CLERK.	CLERK'S POST OFFICE.	No. of Meeting Houses.	Seating Capacity.	Value of Meeting Houses.	No. of Parsonages.	Value of Parsonages.	Total Value of Church Property.
			Increase.			Decrease.												
			By Baptism.	By Letter.	By Restoration.	By Letter.	By Exclusion.	By Death.										
1	Brooksville.....	Hernando...	1	7	.....	5	1	2	58	.....	J. H. Law.....	Brooksville.....	1	300	\$ 2,800	1	\$600	\$ 3,400
2	Bellevue.....	Marion.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	14	.....	E. A. Polly.....	Bellevue.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
3	Center Hill.....	Sumter.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10	.....	Dr. — Scott.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
4	Cool Spring.....	".....	.....	.....	1	.....	1	.....	18	W. B. Hare.....	A. M. Cason.....	Cason.....	1	50	100	.....	100	.....
5	Crystal River.....	Hernando...	2	.....	.....	3	.....	.....	51	J. B. Haralson...	W. B. Edwards...	Chrystal River ..	1	100	100	.....	100	.....
6	Eden.....	".....	6	4	3	.....	.....	3	77	Geo. Frederick...	J. M. Hedick.....	Add.....	1	200	975	.....	1,200	.....
7	Equity.....	Sumter.....	.....	3	.....	4	1	.....	16	A. E. Cloud.....	J. J. Phillips.....	Lady Lake.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	100	.....
8	Harmony.....	Marion.....	.....	.....	.....	1	2	.....	40	W. B. Carson.....	W. E. Martin.....	Electra.....	1	300	400	.....	420	.....
9	Lake Kerr.....	".....	1	1	.....	3	.....	1	23	H. C. Martin.....	W. P. Williamson	Kerr City.....	1	100	100	.....	125	.....
10	Lake Weir.....	".....	6	21	1	4	.....	1	45	J. C. Porter.....	Alfred Ayer.....	N. Lake Weir...	1	300	2,500	.....	2,800	.....
11	Lecanto.....	Hernando...	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	1	17	J. B. Haralson...	F. N. Lewis.....	Lecanto.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
12	Leesburg.....	Sumter.....	15	16	2	4	4	4	72	J. C. Porter.....	J. H. Richards...	Leesburg.....	1	250	1,600	.....	2,100	.....
13	Midway.....	".....	14	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	53	W. J. Hughes.....	E. H. Rennolds, Sr	Orange Home...	1	200	500	.....	550	.....
14	New Hope.....	Marion.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	41	.....	P. W. Whiteside..	Ocala.....	1	200	200	.....	225	.....
15	Oclawaha Bridge	".....	5	2	.....	4	1	2	75	W. J. Hughes.....	C. T. Henderson...	Grahamville...	1	200	300	.....	350	.....
16	Pleasant Plains..	".....	1	.....	.....	4	2	.....	25	B. I. Hull.....	J. H. Parramore.	Grahamville...	1	100	100	.....	125	.....
17	Pine Level.....	Sumter.....	15	6	.....	5	6	.....	115	J. C. Porter.....	J. C. Stapp.....	Oxford.....	1	250	300	.....	400	.....
18	Sardis.....	Marion.....	3	2	.....	.....	2	.....	52	Joshua Perry.....	C. B. Perry.....	Whitesville	1	250	300	.....	325	.....
19	Shady Grave.....	Hernando...	.....	2	.....	.....	1	.....	16	J. B. Haralson...	J. C. Priest.....	Stage Pond.....	1	150	100	.....	125	.....
20	Sumterville.....	Sumter.....	8	4	.....	.....	1	.....	37	J. C. Porter.....	T. W. Graham...	Sumterville	1	350	1,400	.....	1,500	.....
21	Union Level.....	Marion.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	49	Geo. Frederick...	Jno. J. Brown...	Heidtsville	1	200	200	.....	300	.....
22	Wildwood.....	Sumter.....	2	6	.....	.....	.....	1	33	W. J. Hughes.....	G. W. Huntsman.	Wildwood.....	1	250	300	.....	350	.....
Total			79	77	7	40	22	15	937				18	3750	\$11,275	1	\$600	\$11,875

OFFICERS.

ELDER W. B. HARE, MODERATOR.....Sumterville, Fla.
BRO. E. H. RENNOLDS, SR., CLERK.....Orange Home, Fla.
BRO. W. R. MATHEWS, TREASURER.....Leesburg, Fla.'

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

F. S. YAGER, CHAIRMAN.....Leesburg, Fla.
E. H. RENNOLDS, SR.....Orange Home, Fla.
G. W. HUNTSMANWildwood, Fla.
J. T. PERRY.....Oxford, Fla.
L. L. AIKENHeidtsville, Fla.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

R. G. HOOD.....Oxford, Fla.
P. L. DURISOE.....Grahamville, Fla.
J. B. LAW.....Wiscon, Fla.
F. M. CHILES.....Leesburg, Fla.