STETSON LIBRARY

MINUTES STETSON LIBRARY

OF THE-

Piffieth Annual Session

-- OF THE--

Alachua Baptist Association,

----HELD WITH THE

Eden Church, Hernando County, Florida,

October 14, 15, and 16, A. D. 1896.

Officers.

BROTHER D. C. HULL, Moderator, Sumterville, Fla-ELDER E. H. Rennolda sr., Clerk, Orange Home, Fla-BROTHER W. R. MATHEWS, Treasurer, Leesburg, Fia.

Next Session to Be He'd with Sardis Church, Five Miles Northwest of Oxford, Sumter County, Florida, Commencing on Wednesday after the Second Sunday in October, 1897.

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OCALA, FLA. WITNESS BOOK AND JOB PRINT. 1806.

### MINUTES.

EDEN CHURCH, October 14, 1896.

The Alachua Baptist Association assembled in the meeting-house of the above named church at 11 o'clock a.m., to hold its Fiftieth Session, and was called to order by the former Moderator, Brother D. C. Hull.

Brother J. M Hayman led in prayer.

The introductory sermon was delivered by Elder B. M. Bean. Subject, "The Church."

Prayer by Brother L. D. Geiger.

The association adjourned one hour for refreshments.
Benediction by Brother J. C. Porter.

### AFTERNOON SESSION.

The association reassembled at 1:30 o'clock p.m.

Prayer by Brother W. B. Hare.

The letters from the churches were read by Brethren W. E. Law and J. C. Langley, and the following named brethren and sisters were enrolled as

### MESSENGERS.

Brooksville—A. N. Chelf, J. C. Davant, W. E. Law. Bushnell—W. J. Hughes, C. C. Carrin, Mrs. Mary Bev-

Cove Bend—J G. Jackson, E. Zimmerman, H. W. Zell-

Eden-J. A. Morgan, W. A. Smith, M. H. Snow, E. M.

Bishop, C. A. Mason, R. A. Quinn.

Hebron-P. Evans, A. P. Sharp, B. F. Wilson. Lady Lake-W. W. Brown, Mrs. W. W. Brown, J. H.

McKinney, D. B. Farmer. Lake Weir-J. C. Porter.

Lecanto-J. P. Lewis, J. W. Wilson, C. G. Haralson. Leesburg-N. A. Bailey, J. C. Langley, Mrs J. C Langley, W. R. Mathews

Oxford-W. R. Oberry.

Sardis-H. E. Snowdon, Mrs. H E. Snowdon, Walter Nichols, W. R. Nichols, Mrs. W. R. Nichols.

Sumterville--D. C. Hul, W. B. Hare, Mrs. W. B. Hare, Miss Essie Helvenston.

Webster M. C. Akins, A. Kellam, Glen Fails

Whitney-B. M. Bean, E. H. Rennolds, sr, Miss Sue Robuck.

The officers were all re-elected by acclamation, to-wit: D. C. Hull, moderator; E. H Rennolds, sr., clerk; and W. R. Mathews, treasurer.

Visiting brethren were invited to seats with us. The invitation was accepted by Elder L. D. Geiger, of Wekiva Association, and also as secretary of the Baptist Ministers' Assurance Association; and Elder J. M. Hayman, of the South Florida Association.

Elder J. C. Porter, editor of the Florida Baptist Witness, presented the claims of our state organ.

The moderator announced the following

### COMMITTEES.

Missions-W. B. Hare, Mrs. J. C. Lang ey. Education-J. C. Davant, J. C. Langley, E. M. Bishop. Temperance-D. B. Farmer, M. H. Snow, R. A. Quinn. Woman's Work-N. A. Bailey, J. A. Morgan, Mrs. W. B.

Periodicals-L. D. Geiger, C. A. Mason, Mrs Mary

Sunday Schools-B. M. Bean, C. A. Mason, Miss Essie Helvenston.

Letters and Queries-A Kellam, Walter Nichols, J. H. McKinney.

Finance-W. E. Law, J. G. Jackson, M. C. Akins. Obituaries-E. Zimmerman, C. C. Carrin, W. W. Brown.

Divine Service-Pastor W. J. Hughes, and deacons of Eden church, and Elder L D. Geiger.

Nominations -- J. C. Davant, W. B. Hare, A. N Chelf, W. R. Oberry

Baptist Ministers' Assurance Association-L. D Geiger, B. M. Bean, J. C. Langley. Brother J. C. Davant read the REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

This report must sound very much like that of the servant unto whom his master gave the one talent We can only return to this session the trust committed to us by the last, with but little showing in the line of increase. Two union meetings have been attempted. The first was with the church at Wildwood, in December. At this meeting we met a small representation from two or three churches. Three members of the committee were present (on Sunday). Two of the ministers of the association were present, and a so Elder Asa Cox of Tennessee, who preached both Saturday and Sunday. A collection was taken on Sunday, amounting to \$3.81 This amount was paid to Brother D. B. Farmer, with instructions to report the same to the treasurer of the State Mission Board. Recommendations for aid in the sum of \$50 each were granted to the following churches, viz.: Wi dwood, Grand Island and Floral City. (We learn that no assistance was given to either point by the State Board.)

The second meeting was held with the church at Whitney, on the fifth Sunday in March. Here the representation was so small from the churches, the committee and the ministers of the association that no other meetings have been attempted. Your committee therefore ask to be discharged, and beg to submit the following recommendations: First, that a new committee be elected; second, that this association name the places where the union meetings are to be held (provided that it is thought best to continue them); third, that if in the wisdom of this association it decides that these meetings can and should be held, each of the messengers constituting this association be urged to constitute himself a committee to earnestly endeavor to stimulate an interest in this part of the Respectfully submitted. COMMITTEE

The report was discussed at length by Brethren J C. Davant, D. B. Farmer, B. M. Bean, J. C. Porter, L D. Geiger, J. C. Langley and W. B Hare, On motion of Brother W. B. Hare the report was committed to a special committee, as follows: W. B. Hare, B. M. Bean and D B Farmer.

The Committee on Divine Service reported Elder D. B. Farmer to preach tonight and Elder J. M. Hayman at 11 o'clock a.m tomorrow.

The association adjourned till 9 o'clock a.m. tomorrow. Benediction by Brother L. D. Geiger.

### THURSDAY'S SESSION.

The association assembled at 9 o'clock a.m. Prayer by Brother B M. Bean

The minutes of yesterday's session were read and approved.

Brother L. D. Geiger read the report of committee on BAPTIST MINISTERS' ASSURANCE ASSOCIATION.

We, your Committee on the above named association, believe that said association is doing a 'noble work, and recommend, first, that all of our ministers become beneficiary members of it; second, that all of our laymen who can possibly afford the small expense become honorary members. Respectfully submitted.

L. D. GEIGER
B. M. BEAN,
J. C. LANGLEY.

Remarks were made by Brethren L D Geiger. E H. Rennolds, sr., and B. M. Bean, and the report adopted.

## TREASURER'S REPORT. W. R. Mathews, Treasurer, in account with Alachua Associaton.

	DR.	
To balance on hand las	t session \$ 4 21	
" of mission	collection 32 00 und Collection 12 00 665	
" Printing F	und Cotlection 12 00	
" received or	account of Brother H. H. Sturges:	
	From Leesburg church 1 55	
	From Webster church 1 25	
	From Sumterville church 45	
	From Bushnell church 50	
	From Oxford church 1 00	
	From Eden church 1 40	
	From Lisbon church 20	
	From Ocklawaha Bridge church 2 18	
T-4-1		
Total amount rec		
P		
by amount paid Brothe	F. H. Rennolds, sr., Clerk\$10 00	
DIOLD	Br W. I. Haghes, missionary	
Droin	er I. C. Porter printing minutes	
Brothe	er H. H. Sturgis, missionary 10 70	
Dotal amount paid out	\$65 45	
by balance to my credi	nitted. W. R. MATHEWS, Treasurer	
Respectfully subn	aitted. W. R. MATHEWS, Treasurer.	
The report was ad	onted	
ne report was au	opica.	

### REPORT ON PERIODICALS.

We your committee, beg to recommend first of all that every Baptist family in our association take and read the Florida Baptist Witness; also that they subscribe for the Foreign Mission Journal, and that they use in their Sunday schools the helps furnished by the Sunday school Board of the Southern Baptist Convention Respectfully submitted.

L. D. Geiger,

C. A. MASON, Committee.
MRS MARY BEVILLE,

After a few remarks by Brother L D Geiger the report was adopted. The association adjourned for preaching.

Elder J. M. Hayman, of Bartow, who was present at the organization of the association, preached, using as a text Galatians vi. 9: "And let us not be weary in well-doing; for in due season we shall reap if we faint not." His reminiscences of the early days of the association were very interesting and highly enjoyed by all present. Prayer by Brother W. B. Hare.

### AFTERNOON SESSION.

After a short session of the Ladies Missionary Society the association reassembled at 2 o'clock pm. Prayer by Brother W. R. Oberry.

### REPORT ON OBITUARIES.

Your committee find that during the past year Oxford church has lost one of her deacons in the person of Brother W. B. Cauthen, who went to his reward September 5, 1896, aged 86 years. We also note the following other deaths reported by other churches, to-wit: Sisters Cora Boyd and Mary Fuqua, of Webster; Sister M. E. Butler, of Whitney; Sister Lizzie DeLoach, ot Lady Lake; Sisters Coggins and Goodwin, of Bushnel; Sister Lucial Stone, of Leesburg; Sister Sessions, of Brooksville; and Sister Collins, of Sardis. We recommend that a page of the minutes be inscribed to the memory of Brother Cauthen.

E ZIMMERMAN.

C. C CARRIN.

After a few remarks by Brethren D. B. Farmer and W. W. Brown the report was adopted. On motion of Brother D. B. Farmer the name of the committee was

W. W. Brown; )

changed from Deceased Ministers and Deacons to Obitu-

### REPORT ON WOMAN'S MISSION WORK.

It is commonly conceded that the great commission of our Lord was given to the churches through the apostles. And as this is true, the Lord in His work of grace has shown that no small part of carrying out this commission is laid upon the women of our churches. This is evident from the fact that the majority consists of women.

While the women are not, as a class, the bread winners of the family, they contribute equally with the men in the maintainance of the family. They care for the "stuff," and are therefore the rightful sharers in al the productions of prosperity, which comes as the joint result of the provider and the preserver of that prosperity Their labors are equal in importance to those of the men. They have therefore an equal right to contribute to the carrying out of this commission. No man can do the believing, repenting and rejoicing for his wife and children any more than he can do the working and giving for them. If he cannot do the one, he should not do the other, With this right on the part of the women of our churches, comes the responsibility to do, the obligation of service. We are not left to surmise on this line, if scripture example is worth anything. It wou'd seem from the reading of Luke viii, I to 3, that the women were the contributors to Christ's support, and of the apostles, while they were with Him, On the day of Christ's resurrection, He chose to send the first tidings of that glorious event by a woman. All along through the New Testiment, we find that women were active in the work of supporting the gospel. No more noble examples of martyr spirits can be found in the anna's of history than among women This is true in our own day as well as in past ages. Why should they be denied the right and privilege of showing their love to the Savior in some practical way? Did He not die for them? Did He not love them as wel!? Who shall dare restrain them in doing what they can in carrying forward the work of the Lord? We are glad to report that the Woman's Mission Work in this association is better organized than in any other of this state. Of course it can, and ought, to be improved, and we should not rest until every church in our bounds has an active, live Woman's Mission Society in it, maintaining the work and reporting quarterly to our State Secretary Miss J. L. Spalding and sending regularly the contributions to Rev. W. N. Chaudoin, treasurer of Florida Bastist Convention. The spirit of missions takes us beyond the home to the "regiens beyond," until it enfolds in its arms the remotest nations; and recognizes the great brotherhood of our race, needing the same gospel, the same salvation and the same Christ we need. The reflex influence of this work upon our hearts and our churches is immeasurable for good. Every department of church work is strengthened and helped by the growth of the missionary spirit. As a matter of encouragement and profound gratitude to the God of missions, we will state that the women of the Southern Baptist Convention contributed during the convention year, ending April 30. 1896: for H. M. board \$33,542.64, and to the F. M. board \$22,799 55, making a total of \$56,342.19. This is the result of organization. We cannot give the amount raised in Florida up to that date, but give the total for year ending Dec 31, 1895, as reported in last minute of Florida Baptist Convention, which was \$2,968 67. The associations of the state have 88 societies and 20 mission boards. This association has 11 societies and 6 mission boards, being one-eighth of the societies of the state and nearly onethird of the boards. While this record is a matter of gratification, let not our pastors and sistors be satisfied until the number of societies and boards equal the number of our churches. The W. M. U., of Florida, contributes to all the objects to which our convention contributes.

Mrs. B M. Bean, of Sumterville, and Mrs. J. C. Langley, of Leesburg, are the honored vice-presidents of the union for this association. They are ready at any time to render any of our sisters help in the organization of local societies in their churches. They are your servents for Christ's sake. Call on them, and with pen or tongue they will respond with loving hearts and ready hands.

Respectfully submitted,
N. A. Bailey,
J. A. Morgan,
Mrs. W. B. Hare,

After remarks by Bros. E. H. Renolds, sr, N. A. Bailey and D. B. Farmer, the report was adopted.

### REPORT ON MISSIONS.

Jesus Christ was the first missionary. He was the one sent from heaven to earth. His mission was to save It has ever been His plan, as unfolded in history, to extend

His saving knowledge through the gifts, sacrifices and lives of those who have received his salvation

The divine commission, given before His ascension, reads: "Go ye, make disciples of all nations." While one nation or one soul remains unsaved, this command is binding upon His people. Your committee be lieves that only two things are necessary to make a converted Baptist a missionary Baptist. These are acquaintance with the Bible doctrine of missions, and a knowledge of the facts of the past and present religous condition of the world. No Christian imbued with a sound knowledge of the scriptural teaching and practice of missions, and acquainted with the needs of earth's unsaved mi lions can long be indifferent. Brethren, read the Bible, and read the reports of Drs.

Tichenor and Willingham.

Never in the past have the needs, both at home and abroad, been greater. Uncounted throngs in heathen lands, as well as great hosts in our own country, even in Florida, are pressing on to a Christless doom and an endless eternity What are we as an association doing to carry out our Lord's last orders Let the reports from the churches answer. Let not the great financial depression discourage our gifts. May we remember the example of the Macedonian churches. Of them the great apostle wrote: "The depth of their poverty abounded unto the riches of their liberality." May each of us pray and give for missions. Having first given ourselves unto the Lord may we all give cheerfully, systematically and liberally of our means Let us give or change our name. Are you a Missionary Baptist?

W. B. HARE, Chairman.

Pending a motion to adopt, remarks were made by Bro. W. J. Hughes, and the report was then adopted.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

Received of the churches for home missions	2.62
Received of the churches for foreign missions	3.00
Received of churches for associational purposes	4.85
Received of churches for printing minutes	23 96

Total..... \$34.43

Respectfully Submitted, W. E. Law, J. G. Jackson,

M. C. AKINS, Committee.

The report was adopted without discussion.

REPORT OF COEMITTEE ON DIVINE SERVICES

The committee on Divine services reported Eld N. A Bailey to preach tonight and Eld, L. D. Gieger at II a. m. tomorrow. Adjourned until 9 a. m. tomorrow Benediction by Bro. N. A. Bailey.

### FRIDAY'S SESSION.

Assembled at 9 a. m. Prayer by Bro. Kellam. Read and approved the minutes of yesterday.

### REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

It is gratifying to note that of our churches reported by letter, only one is without a Sunday school. This should be regarded as quite encouraging, if Sunday schoo s are what they should be. We believe however, that we have reason to fear that many of them are very nearly failures The Sunday school is a department of church work in which every member of every church should be engaged, and where God's word should be faithfully taught Its purpose shou d be two-fold: First, so to teach God's word that the sinners should be brought to Christ; second, that the members of the churches should be instructed in Bible doctrine and prepared for usefulness Much Sunday school work has little of the idea that the Christian mission is to "seek and save that which was lost," and many teachers do not seem to realize their accountability; that they are handling the word of God, dealing with immortal sou's and that the blood of souls may be required at their hands. Respectfully Submitted,

B. M. BEAN,
C. A. MASON,
MISS ESSIE HELVENSTON,
Committee.

Previous to its adoption, the report was discussed by Bros. B. M. Bean, W. B. Hare and N. A. Bailey.

### REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

The importance of temperance in all things is recognized by every person who thoughtfully considers the happiness of man and the welfare of society. But as Christians and church members, we should have a greater interest than others in this subject, and put forth our best efforts to remove the evil of intemperance; first, from our own souls, and second, from the society of the world. It is understood of course, that we use the world intemper-

ance with special reference to alcoholic beverages, while the word properly applies also to other habits. That the use of such beverages is the source of more crime and suffering than any other evil in the world, is a fact too well known to need restatement, much less proof. Therefore, we heartily approve of the report on temperance adopted at the last session of this association, and recommend that our churches fail not to discipline all members who use intoxicating liquors or encourage the sale of the same by signing petitions for license.

D B. FARMER, Committee.

The report was earnestly discussed by Bros. D. B. Farmer, N. A. Bailey, L. D Gieger and J. M. Hayman, and adopted. Adjourned for preaching.

Eld L. D. Gieger preached the missionary sermon. Text, Mark xvi, 7, "And Peter." Missionary collection \$9.75 Benediction by Bro. N. A. Bailey.

### AFTERNOON SESSION.

, Reassembled at 2:30 p. m. Prayer by Bro, D. B. Farmer.

### RAPORT ON NOMINATIONS.

We recommend for the next meeting of the association: To preach the introductory sermon Eld. J. B. Haralson, alternate D. B. Farmer; to preach the missionary sermon N. A Baily, alternate L. D. Gieger The report was adopted as read.—Read by Bro. W. B. Hare,

### REPORT ON LETTERS AND QUERIES.

We are sorry to note that so few of our churches this year have reported revivals, and letting the Master's cause go without an effort on their part. We are sorry also to note that the churches in their letters to the association do not tell us what the Lord has been and is still doing for them; and we would urge it upon the churches to have their clerks to write up a letter to the association on this matter and give us other information than their statistics in their reports.

Respectfully submitted,

A. KELLAM,
WALTER NICHOLS,
J. H. McKINNEY,
Committee.

The report was adopted without discussion.

The special committee on union meetings reported

through their chairman, Bro. W. B. Hare, reccomending that the matter be referred to the executive committee. The report was adopted without discussion.

The following brethren were elected as the executive committee: Bros. J C. Davant, J. C. Langley, D. C. Hull, J. M. Hedick and O S. Bogue.

Sardis was the place selected for the next session and II a. m., Wednesday after the second Sunday in October, 1897, as the time.

The following delegates to the state convention were elected: Bros N. A. Bailey, B. M. Bean, W. R. Oberry, D. B. Farmer, D. C. Hull, E. H. Renolds, sr., J. C.\* Largley, W. S. Jennings, W. J. Hughes and Sister M. Jennie Bean. Alternates, any of the brethren who may attend.

B. M. Bean was chosen as delegate to Southern Baptist Convention and N. A. Bailey as alternate.

### REPORT ON EDUCATION.

It would be difficult to overestimate the importance of education, both secular and religious As parents, charged with the bringing up of our children, it is clearly our duty to see that their equipment is such as is calculated to make their lives in the world in the highest degree useful. And the first step we apprehend, in order to the accomplishment of that end, is education; cultivation of the mind and of the heart. And we would especially lay stress upon the latter; that is the cultivation of the heart. Let us remember that while we are cultivating the mental, we must not neglect the moral and spiritual wellbeing of our children, ever remembering that the system of education which fails to point the soul to the saviour of men, though it may cause those who receive it to shine more wonderfully as intellectual lights, is worse than a failure in the end. As a school well calculated to secure this end we recommend Ino B. Stetson University for the education of our I. C. DAVANT. sons and daughters. J. C. LANGLEY, Committee.

Remarks were made pending the adoption of the report by Bros. N. A. Bailey and W. B. Hare. and after being amended by Bro. N. A. Bailey, adding the last sentence,

E. M. BISHOP,

the followingsubscription was taken up to pay the board of Bro. Jno. P. Graham at Jno. B. Stetson University:

Leesburg church....\$10.00 Eden church....\$10.00

Leesburg L. M. S...\$5.00 Whitney church...\$10.00

Brooksville church...\$5.00 Whitney L. M. S...\$5.00

Brooksville L. M. S...\$5.00 Bushnell church...\$5.00

Sumterville church...\$5.00

Total...\$80.00.

The report was then adopted.

On motion of Bro. N. A. Bailey the clerk was instructed to have the usual number of minutes printed and distributed, and that he be paid fifteen dollars for his services, and be allowed to solicit reputable advertisements to help pay expenses of printing minutes.

A vote of thanks was tendered the F. C. & P., and Plant System of railroads for reduced rates, and to the Eden and Brooksville churches and vicinity for their warm hearted hospitality.

The association then adjourned to meet with the Sardis church, Sumter county, Fla, at 11 a.m. on Wednesday after the second Sunday in October, 1897.

Song, "God be with you till we meet again," and engaged in the usual handshaking. Prayer by Bro. J. M. Hayman.

D. C. Hull,

E. H. RENNOLDS, SR., Clerk. Mode

Moderator.

This Page is Officially Inscribed

TO

THE MEMORY

OF

Deacon W. B. Cauthen,

OF

Oxford Church,

Who departed this life September 5th,

1806.

Aged 86 Years.

"For they that have used the office of a Deacon well, purchase to themselves a good degree, and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus."

# STATISTICAL TABLE No. 1.

Coutri intions to Missions  Expenses  No. of Officers and Leachers  No. of Officers and Leachers  Leaching Leachers  No. of Officers and Leachers  Leaching Leachers  No. of Officers and Leachers  Summerville  Summ
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# STATISTICAL TABLE No. 2.

	Total.	612 13	48 35	155 53	49 00 430 49			
Women's Missionary Societies	Foreign Missions	13 45	. 55		10 00	2 57		
	Home Missions	00 :			1 80	: 28	13 30	10 73
Miscellaneous		8 :	11 8		2 00		12.00	3 00 17 00 10 73 10 54
Printing	Minutes	300	60 1 25	280	388	1 50	888	3 80
	inisters							1:8
Education	onao							90 0
Foreign	Missions	4 50 4 50	25	.5 %	15 49		2 16	25 00
Home Missions		2 00		: 34 : 500	13 00	1 27		
State M	lissions	\$ 00	8 19		13 00			37 35
Home S Sch	unday ool Expenses	60	3 00	9		12 88	55,	
Home (	Church Expenses	543 35		19 00		46.20	87 25	Maria Carrier
Value of Parsonages		1,500			2,000			
Value o	f Meeting Houses	3,500	8,8	. 85.8	2,500	1,000	1,000	2,500 0,000 0,000 0,000
When	Constituted	1886	2888 260 260 260 260 260 260 260 260 260 260	2000	: 5883 : 5883	2888	888 888	1883 1883 1884
	CHURCHES.	och ksyllle	Spring Bend	of Island Slough on	y Lake e Weir mnto	on ord	is in the control of	Ster tiney wood