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MINUTES ***

—OF THE

TWENTY-FIRST

ANNUALSESSION

--- OF THE

Saint Mary's River MISSIONARY

BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

—HELD WITH THE

BETHANY CHURCH, MASSAU COUNTY, FLORIDA.

October 19, and 20, 1899.

OFFICERS:

S. M. SCRUGGS Moderator

JAMES D. CHALKER Clerk

A. E. OGILVIE Tressurer

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BAKER COUNTY PRESS PRINT, MACCLENNY, FLORIDA. 1800.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

- 1. Introductory Sermon.
- 2. Association called to order by Moderator.
- 3. Letters from the churches called for, read and names of delegates enrolled.
- 4. Petionary letters called tor.
- 5. Election of officers.
- 6. Inviting visiting brethren to seats.
- 7. Letters of correspondence called for.
- 8. Appointment of committees.
 9. Circular letter called for.
- 10. Reports of standing and other committees.
- 11. Queries ealled up and considered.
- 12. Miscellaneous business.
- 13. Adjournment.

MINUTES.

The St. Mary's River Missionary Baptist Association met pursuant to adjournment with Bethany Church, Nassau County, Florida, and was called to order by the Moderator, Bro. S. M. Scruggs, and after the reading of a portion of Scriptures and prayer, the following business was had:

Letters from the churches were called for and read, and the names of messengers enrolled as follows:

Thomas Creek-J. M. Ogilvie, L. W. Braddock and S. A. Ogilvie.

Mt. Olive—C. Wingate, J. O. Wingate, J. H. Braddock and J. C. Wingate.

Brandy Branch—J. Higginbothan, Elias Fourakers and W. R. Dyess.

Live Oak—J. A. McIntosh and J. S. Braddock. Ephesus—J. D. Haddock and J. M. Haddock.

1st. Baptist Church of Jacksonville—S. M. Scruggs and Rev. E. H. Reynolds.

1st. Baptist Church at Folkston-C, H. Lloyd and Rev. D. Sykes

Buford Grove—R. S. Mott, H. Davis and O. K. Sanders. Macedonia—I. C. Braddock.

Port Henry—W. C. Davis, Miss Jessie Wilds and Mrs. H. P. Trimble.

Bethany-J. B. Jones, J. H. Budfort, C. A. Sauls and A. E. Braddock,

1st. Baptist Church at Moniac—C. E. Murrhee and James Petty.

Bethel—No letter, but C. F. Barber and James D. Chalker being present were received as messengers from that church.

On motion and by a vote the rules were waived, and the following officers were elected by a yea and nay vote. Bro. S. M. Scruggs was re-elected Moderator, Jas. D. Chalker Clerk, and A. E. Ogilvie Treasurer.

Visiting brethren were then invited to seats with us. Rev. L. W. Kickliter from the New River Association, and Rev. J. C. Porter, Editor of the Baptist Witness, came forward and was welcomed by the Moderator.

The hour for preaching having arrived, the Association took a recess till 1:30 p. m.

The introductory sermon was preached by Rev. J. C. Por-

ter, the Acts of the Apostles, and chap. 41st and 42d verses, after which a collection was taken up to aid Ministerial Students at Stetson, amounting to \$8.85, also a collection of \$5 to aid old ministers.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Association was called to order, and after singing and prayer the following business was had:

Committees were appointed as follows:

On Temperance—É. H. Reynolds, J. M. Ogilvie and J. O. Wingate.

On Missions-D. C. Andress, W. C. Davis and C. F.

Barber.

On Nominations—J. C. Braddock, R. S. Mott and S. Davis.

On Periodicals-L. W. Kickliter, J. J. Jones and Jas.

Haddock.

On Discipline—L. W. Braddock, C. Wingate and J. H. Braddock.

On Woman's Work-D. C. Andress, Mrs. H. P. Trem-

ble and A. E. Ogilvie.

On Obituaries—E. H. Reynolds, J. A. McIntosh and Elias Fourakers.

On Finance—C. F. Barber, J. C. Braddock and R. S.

Mott.

On Sunday Schools—J. D. Haddock, Miss Jessie Wilds and O. K. Sanders,

On Ministerial Assurance—E. H. Reynolds, J. C. Braddock and J. J. Jones.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RELIGIOUS EXERCISE.

We, your Committee, beg leave to report that devotional services will be conducted this evening at 7:30 o'clock led by Bro. J. C. Braddock, and Rev. E. H. Reynolds will preach at 8 o'clock. Devotional Services to morrow morning led by Bro. S. M. Scruggs, and preaching at 11 o'clock by Rev. D. C. Andress.

Association adjourned till to-morrow morning at 9:30 o'clock.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION.

After devotional services the Association was called to order by the Moderator, and the following business had:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS.

Your Committee believe that it is not left to the believer in Christ to choose, whether they are interested or not in Mission work, but it comes as a command from our Master, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature."

This includes every child of God; all may not be able to go and preach the Gospel, but every one may help to send it, and should do their part. Let each of us ask ourselves the question, "How much have I done in obeying the command of our Savior," In the providence of God new fields have been opened at home and abroad for the teaching of the blessed truth. Let us not only recognize the providence of God, but do our part in carrying out His Holy Will; let our church members, of both sex and all ages, resolve to do their part in spreading the glad news of Salvation and receive the blessed reward.

D. C. ANDRESS C. F. BARBER. W. C. DAVIS.

The report was ably discussed by Revs. D, C. Andress, Theo, Davis, S, M, Scruggs and others, and on motion and by a vote was adopted.

REPORT ON DISCIPLINE.

We, your Committee on Discipline, beg leave to report that from information gathered from letters from the different churches of this association a good state of discipline prevails.

L. W. BRADDOCK. C. WINGATE. J. H. BRADDOCK.

On motion and by a vote the report was adopted:

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

No great reform movement is ever carried forward without persistent and earnest agitation; whenever the agitation ceases the interest wangs and the cause, however good, loses ground.

The taste for strong drink has taken such a strong hold on our people that it cannot be easily destroyed. The first step in the effort to release our fellow-citizens from the thraldom of the drink habit is to profit by the old adage, "Out of sight, out of mind," and direct our efforts as citizens to the banishment from our nation the saloons where our boys and young men have their appetites for spirits kept aflame, and our efforts at moral suasion so neutralized that many of our good people are so disheartened that they faint by the way, and say it is a hopeless task, and folding their hands, they look on at their fellowmen drifting to ruin, and never stretch a hand to save them.

The discipline of our churches is much at fault in dealing with drunkards. After we have carnestly and prayerfully tried to persuade them to abstain from the use of intoxicants and they

BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

persist in so conducting themselves that the cause is brought into reproach, we should declare our non-fellowship for their deeds of darkness, and relieve the church from the stain of shame, but follow them still with our prayers and counsel, and when thoroughly reformed, as many of them will be, if properly treated, take them back into the fold, and give them our sympathy and advice: Respectfully submitted.

E. H. REYNOLDS, SR. J. O. WINGATE.

The report was ably discussed by Revs. E H. Revnolds: D. Sykes and others, and on motion and by a vote adopted.

REPORT ON RELIGIOUS EXERCISES.

Your Committee beg leave to report that Bro. W. A. Ogilvie will conduct devotional services this evening at 7 o'clock and Rev. Theo. Davis will preach at 8 o'clock. Bro. A. E. Ogilvie will lead devotional services Sunday morning, and Rev. L. W. Kickliter will preach at 11 o'clock.

The hour for preaching having arrived the association took a recess till

1:80 o'clock p. m.

Rev. D. C. Andress preached to a large and attentive congregation from the 31st verse of the 16th chapter of Luke.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Association convened and was called to order by the Moderator: After singing and prayer the regular order of business was resumed.

REPORT ON WOMAN'S WORK.

Your Committee beg leave to report that woman's work is a part of the great duty of establishing and sustaining the gospel work and making it a success at home and abroad. Their societies and mission bands should be organized and maintained in all our churches; their usefulness in the past and present should encourage us to more liberal assistance and earnest prayer for their future success.

> D. C. ANDRESS. A. E. OGILVIE.

Which report was on motion and by a vote adopted.

REPORT ON RELIGIOUS PERIODICALS.

We, your Committee on Periodicals, have had the same under consideration, and feeling the importance and power of the Religious Press in the development of a good, healthy and strong religious character, we recommend the Baptist Witness to the serious consideration of the brotherhood because it is our paper, and second, because it is the only Baptist paper published in our State, and, third, because it is sound in Baptist doctrine and faith.

We recommend the Foreign Mission Journal as the best means for furnishing our people with information about our Foreign Mission work. For Sunday Schools we recommend the literature of the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, and also the American Baptist Publication Society. We also recommend the Home Field of Atlanta, Georgia.

L. W. KICKLITER. J. B. JONES.

J. HADDOCK On motion and by a vote the report was adopted.

REPORT ON MINISTERIAL ASSURANCE ASSOCIATION.

The work of this association in securing to the widows and orphans of our deceased ministers deserves help, and should have our sympathy and aid. Our ministers should all become members of it, and thus provide for the loved one's help when their labors are no more available. Our brethren and visitors can find no better use of the money which God has houored them with than us His stewards, than to help buy food and raiment for the families of those who have so unselfishly given their labors and lives that we might have the preached word.

If all the Baptists in the State who could help in this matter would do so, the numbers of this association would be so increased that much want would be relieved, and the Savior would say, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto them, ye have done it unto me." Respectfully submitted,

E. H. REYNOLIN.

J. B. JONES.

J. C. BRADDOCK.

The report was ably discussed by Revs. E. H. Reynolds and others, and on motion and by a vote adopted.

REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

We, your committee, beg leave to submit the following report: We find that some of our churches have Suaday Schools, though many of them have none. Realizing the great benefit of Sunday Schools, we would earnestly urge our brethren to organize and work up the Sunday School's cause in all our churches. Respectfully submitted.

O. R. SANDERS.

R. S. MOTT.

J. D. HADDOCK.

On motion and by a vote the report was adopted.

REPORT ON NOMINATION.

We, your Committee, recommend that our next association be held with the Bethel Church at Macclenny, Baker County, Florida, commencing on Friday before the Fourth Sunday in October, 1900, Rev. D. C. Andress to preach the introductory sermon, and Rev. J. J. Parsons to preach the Missionary sermon. We also forminate an executive committee for the consideration of the association, viz: A. E. Ogilvie, J. C. Braddock, O. K. Sanders, J. B. Jones, S. M. Scruggs, J. O. Wingate and C. A. Young. We also nominate as delegates to the State Convention, viz: Revs. J. J. Parsons, D. C. Andress and E. H. Reyvolds, and brethren S. M. Scruggs and W. C. Davis.

J. C. BRADDOCK:

R. S. MOTT.

A. H. DAVIS, JR.

The report was adopted as presented, but on after consideration a motion was offered to change the time of holding the association from Friday before the fourth Sunday to Friday before the first Sunday in October, which motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

To amount in Treasury from last year " amount received from the treasurer of this association " amount received from the Union Meetings " amount received from Crandall Church	\$ 84.85. 44.06 97.20 2.00
AFTER CR.	\$ 177.61
By amount paid D. C. Andress " " D. Sykes " " E. H. Reynolds " " Theo. Davis	\$ 67.60 85.00 15.00 10.00
	\$ 177.60

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Your treasurer elected at the last annual session of this association held with Thomas Creek Church, October 21st to 23d, 1808, submits the following report:

DR. To amount received from Finance Committee " Sunday's collection " amount received from Marietta Church	\$ 46.26 21.70 5.00
	\$ 72.96
CR.	
By amount paid for printing minutes	\$ 22.50
express charges on minutes	.50
" amount paid clerk	.90 5.00
" amount turned over to executive committee	44.06
	9 72 96

A. E. OGILVIE, Treasurer.

REPORT ON FINANCE.

We, your committee, beg leave to submit the following report: We have received from the church.....

C. F. BARBER. J. C. BRADDOCK.

R. S. MOTT.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

We, the Executive Committee, make the following report of our transactions during the past year:

We employed Rev. D. Sykes for part of his time who labored for twelve months. He reports as follows:

Days labored 46; miles traveled 1179; sermons preached 57; families visited 61; collected in the field \$29.05. We paid Bro. Sykes \$90.

We also employed Rev. D. C. Andress part of his time

OBITUARY.

JOUR Committee have the pleasure of saying that God has mercifully spared to us the lives of all our Ministers and Deacons for which we are profoundly thankful.

E find that during the year fifteen of our brethren and sisters have been called to their rewards as follows:

Sisters Della Braddock and Lovinia Jones, Bethany. Bro, B. L. Higginbotham, of Brandy Branch. Sisters Eliza Libby and Sarah J. Haddock, of Ephesus. Brethren W.n. P. Eller, W. P. Summer, A. W. Wambolt and sisters Alice J. Parsons, C. C. Howard and Iser Brown, of Jack-Sister Lizzie Vanzant, of Mt. Olive, and Sisters Jane Johnson and

Lizzie Burney, of Thomas Creek.



E recommend that a memorial page in our minutes be inscribed to their memory.

Respectfully submitted,

E. H. REYNOLDS. I. B. JONES.

who labored for twelve months, and reports as follows:

Days labored miles traveled 1660; sermons preached 75; families visited 26; collected in the field \$58.29. We paid Bro. Andress \$62.32.

We also employed Rev. Theo. Davis for three months who reports, sermons preached 3 miles traveled 168, for which services we paid Bro. Davis \$10.

We also paid Rev. E. H. Reynolds \$10 for missionary work done at San-

derson, Florida.

The Missionaries report great interest manifested in most of their meetings.

Respectfully submitted

J. O. WINGATE,

Secretary.

The following resolution of thanks was offered by Bro. J. O. Wingate and adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of this association is hereby rendered to the brethren and sisters of Bethany Church, and to the triends of the community for the kind and hospitable treatment received at their hands.

It was moved and carried that the Clerk be paid five dollars for his services, and that he be authorized to draw on the Treasurer for the same; that he also draw on the Treasurer to pay for printing the minutes, and the balance of the contributions to be used in general missionary work.

On motion and by a vote Rev. J. J. Parsons was appointed as a delegate from this association to the Southern Baptist Convention which meets at Hot Springs, Arkansas, and Rev. E. H. Reynolds alternate.

Rev. E. H. Reynolds was appointed as a delegate to the Bulah and Marion Associations, and C. F. Barber and Jas. D. Chalker delegates to the New River Association.

On motion the Association adjourned to meet with the Bethel Church, at Macclenny, Baker County, Florida, on Friday before the 1st Sunday in October, 1900, at 9 o'clock a. m.

S. M. SCRUGGS,

Moderator.

JAS. D. CHALKER, Clerk.

SUNDAY MORNING.

At 10 o'clock prayer services were held, led by Bro. W. A. Ogilvie.

At 10:30 the Sunday School Convention was called to order by its president, W. A. Ogilvie, and although the representation was small, an interesting session was had.

At 11 o'clock Rev. L. W. Kickliter preached the Missionary sermon from Luke 16:31, "And He said unto them, if they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be

persuaded, though one rose from the dead," after which a col-

lection was taken up amounting to \$17.57.

Thus closed the devotional services of a most Spiritual and harmonious meeting.

SUNDAY SCHOOL STATISTICS.

Bethany. J. B. Jones, Callahan, Fla. 6 16 \$ 20		DECES And Teacher Number Enrolled. Average Attendance Contributed for Expr	ontributed for	Volumes in Library
Moniac	Buford Grove. Jacksonville, First	Jones, Callahan, Fla. 6 16 \$ 200 8. Patton, Glen St. Mary, Fla. 4 40 25 566 8. Sanders, Hilliard, Fla. 3 30 19 McCullum, Jacksonville, Fla. 15 160 19		50



eine of Property. Value of Houses. Seating Capacity. Church Houses. By Letter. e Excluded. Restoration, By Letter, CHURCH STATISTICS. Experience. .bestiga a sevenu Membership last year. When Constituted. CHURCHES

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State Missions.	33 80
Church Building and Repairing.	\$255 OC. 2000 OC. 200
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CHURCHES.	Bethany Bethan Bethal Brandy Briord Grove Ephesia Folkston First Jacksonville, First J

RULES OF DECORUM.

- 1. The Association shall not be dissolved without the concurrence of two-thirds of the churches composing the body, and shall have power to withdraw its connection from any church which shall act contrary to the teachings of the Holy Scriptures.
- 2. Any church wishing to be admitted into this body shall petition by letter and messengers, and upon examination, if found orthodox and orderly, shall be admitted.
- 3. Each church shall have a right to four delegates, and shall be entitled to one additional delegate for every fifty members after the first hundred; and one-fourth of the churches represented shall constitute a quorum.
- 4. Any query sent up to the Association by any of the churches composing this body shall be read and duly considered.
- 5. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the observation of the Association, unless withdrawn by the mover.
- 6 Every member who speaks shall rise from his seat and address the Moderator, and shall not be interrupted unless he depart from the subject.
- 7. No brother shall speak more than twice upon one subject without the permission of the body.
- 8. No member shall absent himself without leave of the Moderator.
- 9. It is the duty of this Association to provide for the general union of the churches; to provide for the destitution of the territory within its bounds by missionary aid, and to give the churches the best advice it can in matters of difficulty.
- 10. The Constitution and Rules of Decorum of this body may be altered or amended by the concurrence of two-thirds of its members,

CONSTITUTION

OF THE SAINT MARY'S RIVER MISSIONARY BAPTIST

ASSOCIATION.

In view of the increase of fraternal love, knowledge, usefulness and efficiency which must accrue from an association of churches in cordial union upon the principles of the gospel, we now seek to be thus united, that by individual and collective action we may subserve the great objects of the Redeemer's kingdom.

Article I. This body shall be called the St. Mary's River Missionary Baptist Association.

Art. II. It shall be composed of such churches as hold to the doctrine of human depravity; the atonement of Christ; the election unto eternal life; regeneration and the perseverance of the saints; baptism by immersion, administered to none but professed believers; and the Lord's supper, intended for those only who have been regularly admitted into the visible church.

Art. III. The officers of this Association shall consist of a Moderator, Clerk, and Treasurer, who shall be elected annually by ballot.

Art. IV. We believe in one true and living God, and that there are three persons in the Godhead.

Art. V. We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the only rule of faith and practice, both in the concerns of religion and the general affairs of this life, and particularly in transacting the affairs of our churches.

Art. VI. We believe the church of Christ to be a congregation of baptised believers, who live in fellowship and have given themselves to the Lord and to one another in cordial agreement to observe holy discipline in conformity with the requirements of the Scriptures.

Art. VII. We believe Jesus Christ to be the great Head of the Church; that spiritual discipline, with an eye to the glory of God, must greatly conduce to the final prosperity and union of the churches,

