

Minutes of the forty ninth  
Annual Session of the  
Synodal Association of the  
Primitive Baptists of Ga.  
PROCEEDINGS.

SANDY CREEK CHURCH, BUTTS CO., GA., }  
Saturday September 3, 1887. }

The Introductory Sermon was preached by Eld. Ira L. Gunter from Acts xxviii, 22, "But we desire to hear of thee what thou thinkest, for as concerning this sect we know that everywhere it is spoken against."

After an intermission of one hour the messengers assembled in the house. Singing and prayer by Eld. J. M. Stewart of Little River Association.

1st. Read letters and recorded messengers' names.

2d. Elected I. L. Gunter moderator and W. T. Godard clerk.

3d. Called for petitionary churches desiring to unite with this body, and received a letter from Nun and Wheeler, Wilkinson county, Ga., at the hands of her messenger, Eld. W. B. Carr; also a letter from Mount Pisgah, Upson county, Ga., at the hands of her messengers, T. J. Middlebrooks, J. C. Sanders and A. Boyt; also a letter from Euphrates, Glasscock county, Ga., at the hands of her messenger, L. Sammons; also a letter from Bethel church, Butts county, Ga., at the hands of her messengers, H. M. Vaughn and F. P. Dorton, all of which were found orthodox and orderly Primitive Baptist churches, were received, and manifested by the Moderator extending the right hand of fellowship to her messengers.

4th. Received correspondents from Little River, Eld. J. M. Stewart and Brother T. B. Newton. Blue Ridge, none.

5th. Appointed W. Persons, D. R. Thresher, with the messengers of Sandy Creek, a committee to arrange divine services during the Association.

6th. Appointed J. W. Derick and J. M. Stanley to write corresponding letters.

Adjourned to Monday 8:30 A. M.

Preaching at the stand this evening by Eld. W. F. Rogers, followed by Eld. W. J. Oxford.

LORD'S DAY, September 4, 1887.

At 9:30 A. M. singing and prayers by brethren Derick, Barron and Oxford.

10:30, preaching by Eld. J. M. Stewart from 1st Tim. iii, 16.

1:30 P. M., preaching by Eld. W. B. Carr from St. Luke xxiv, 26, followed by Eld. W. J. Oxford. The congregation was large and orderly. Preaching was with much power, spirit and assurance, and we believe to the good of many present and the glory of God.

MONDAY, 8:30 A. M., September 5, 1887.

Met according to adjournment; singing and prayer by Eld. W. B. Carr.

1st. Called the roll and read the Decorum.

2d. Appointed correspondents. To Little River, Elders Carr, Gunter and Oxford, and brethren J. M. Stanley, T. J. Stephens, J. F. Jackson, D. R. Thresher, G. W. Welsh, J. W. Derick, A. J. Brown, A. Payne and T. J. Preston; Blue Ridge, Elders Gunter, Oxford, Godard and Derick.

3d. Agreed to divide the Association into two districts, and the churches Mount Moriah, Concord, Bethel, Sandy Creek, Mount Olives, Friendship, Nun and Wheeler and Euphrates be and compose the First District; and the churches Ozias, Forest, Hebron, Bersheba, Lebanon, Flat Rock, Liberty, Beulah and Mount Pisgah be and compose the Second District.

4th. Appointed Union Meetings. First District, Mount Olives, Friday before the first Sunday in July, 1888; Second District, Hebron, Friday before the first Sunday in August, 1888.

5th. Agreed to return to the former practice of printing a Circular Letter in our Minutes, and appointed Eld. I. L. Gunter to prepare a Circular Letter for 1888.

6th. Agreed to return to the former practice of appointing a brother annually to preach next Introductory Sermon, and appointed Eld. W. B. Carr to preach the Introductory in 1888, and Eld. W. J. Oxford in case of failure.

7th. Appointed the next session of this body at Ozias, on

Saturday before the first Sunday in September, 1888, seven miles north of McDonough, on the East Tennessee, Virginia and Georgia Railroad.

8th. Read, received and adopted corresponding letters.

9th. Called for contributions, and received for ministers fifty (\$50.35) and 35-100 dollars; for Minutes, twenty-eight (\$28.75) and 75-100 dollars; by brethren and friends present especially for Eld. L. M. Ball, of Little River Association, who at this time is pressed by a heavy hand of affliction, \$9.20.

10th. Ordered 1,000 copies of these Minutes printed and distributed, and the Clerk to pay for the same and retain the remainder of the Minute fund for his services.

11th. On motion, requested the churches of this body to send up in their letters a short notice of deceased members during the year preceding the session.

12th. On motion, by Brother J. W. Derick:

Recognizing the great and abundant preparations made by this church and community for the entertaining of this body, and also favors received by the authorities of the East Tennessee, Virginia and Georgia railroad, we hereby tender our most humble and sincere thanks, praying that the God of all worlds may abundantly reward each.

13th. Read and adopted the Minutes, and adjourned to meet at Ozias on Saturday before the first Sunday in September, 1888.

Singing, and prayer by the Moderator.

I. L. GUNTER, *Moderator.*

W. T. GODARD, *Clerk.*

## CORRESPONDING LETTER.

*Towaliga Association, To her Sister Associations with whom She Corresponds:*

DEAR BRETHREN—The good Lord reigneth, bless his holy name. By his forbearance and mercy we have been permitted to hold this, the forty-ninth, session of the Towaliga Association in peace, love and harmony. Our hearts were made glad and to rejoice at the presence and through the word spoken unto us by your messengers. We desire a continuance of your highly appreciated correspondence. As an evidence of our desire we have appointed from our body the dear elders and brethren, whose names are set forth in the body of these Minutes, whom we commend as faithful servants of the Lord, to visit your session in our behalf.

Dear brethren, we have no messengers from our sister, the Blue Ridge. The cause is unknown to us. We desire a continuance of your correspondence.

The session for 1888 of Towaliga Association will be (D.V.) at Ozias, Henry county, Ga., on Saturday before the first Sunday in September, seven miles north of McDonough, on the East Tennessee, Virginia and Georgia railroad, when and where we hope to meet many of your desirable correspondents.

Yours in love and fellowship,

IRA L. GUNTER, *Moderator.*

W. T. GODARD, *Clerk.*

## Articles of Faith.

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ARTICLE I. We believe in one only true and living God, and that there are three persons in the Godhead—the Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

ART. II. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the word of God, are the only rule of faith and practice.

ART. III. We believe in the doctrine of eternal and particular election.

ART. IV. We believe in the doctrine of original sin.

ART. V. We believe in man's impotency to recover himself from the fallen state he is in, by his own free will and ability.

ART. VI. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God only by the imputed righteousness of Christ.

ART. VII. We believe that God's elect shall be called, regenerated and sanctified, by the Holy Ghost.

ART. VIII. We believe that the saints shall persevere in grace, and never finally fall away.

ART. IX. We believe that baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Jesus Christ, and that true believers are the only subjects of these ordinances, and we believe that the true mode of baptism is by immersion.

ART. X. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and a general judgment.

ART. XI. We believe that the punishment of the wicked shall be everlasting, and the joys of the righteous eternal.

ART. XII. We believe that no minister has the right to the administration of the ordinances only such as are regularly called and come under the imposition of hands by the presbytery.

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## Decorum.

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1. The Association shall be composed of members chosen by the different churches in our union, and duly sent to represent them in our Association, who shall be members, whom they judge best qualified for that purpose, and producing letters from their respective churches certifying their appointment, shall be entitled to a seat.

2. In the letters from the different churches shall be expressed their members in full fellowship, those baptized, received by letter, dismissed, excommunicated, and dead, since last Association.

3. The members thus chosen and convened shall be denominated the Towaliga Primitive Baptist Association.

4. This Association shall have no power to lord it over God's heritage, nor by which they can infringe upon the internal rights of the church, nor to censure or try any individual member in reference to faith or practice, or determine upon the validity of gospel ordinances; these things shall rest entirely with the churches.

5. The Association shall have a Moderator and Clerk, who shall be chosen by the members present, who shall be of the body, and who shall hold their offices until a re-election.

6. If new churches desire to be admitted into this union they shall petition by letters and delegates, and upon examination, if found orthodox and orderly, shall be received by the Association and manifested by the Moderator giving the delegates the right hand of fellowship.

7. No church in the union shall have more than three delegates until they shall exceed one hundred members, and then they shall have an additional delegate for every fifty after the first hundred.

8. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the observation of the Association, except it be withdrawn by the member who made it.

9. Every person who speaks in debate shall rise from his seat and address the Moderator, and shall not be interrupted while speaking, unless he depart from the subject.

10. No person shall speak more than three times on the same subject without leave of the Association.

11. No member of the Association shall have liberty of laughing during the sitting of the same, nor whispering in time of a public speech, nor cast reflections on the speakers; he shall strictly adhere to the subject and in no wise cast reflections on the person who spoke before so as to make remarks on his imperfections, but shall fairly state the case and matter as nearly as he can, so as to convey his light or ideas.

12. No person shall abruptly break off or absent himself from the Association without leave of it.

13. The several names of the Association shall be enrolled by the Clerk and called over as often as the Association may desire.

14. The Moderator shall be entitled to the same privilege of speech as another member, provided the chair be filled, and he shall have no vote except the Association be equally divided.

15. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep a regular record of the proceedings of the Association.

16. The minutes of the Association shall be read and signed by the Moderator before the Association rises.

17. Amendments to this form of government may be made at any time by a majority of the union, when they may deem it necessary.

18. The Association shall have power,

1st. To give the churches all necessary advice in matters of difficulty, but it shall be discretionary with the church whether they take it or not.

2d. To inquire into the cause why the churches fail to represent themselves at any time in the Association.

3d. To correspond with other Associations.

4th. To admit the distant brethren in the ministry, or assistants, who may be present at the time of their sitting, whom they shall judge necessary.

5th. The Association shall have power to adjourn to any future time or place in their bounds that may be agreed upon by the churches composing the same.

6th. Any member who shall willingly break any of these rules shall be reproved by the Association as they shall think proper.

7th. The Association shall be opened and closed by prayer.

## SCALE OF THE CHURCHES.

Number.	CHURCHES.	COUNTIES.	POST OFFICES.	MESSENGERS' NAMES.	Baptized.	Received by Letter.	Restored.	Excluded.	Dismiss'd by Letter.	Dead.	Total.	Minute Fund.	Ministers' Fund.	Time of Meeting.	PASTORS.
					Received on Confes'n of Faith.										
1	Concord.....	Jasper.....	Winfred.....	{ W. J. Oxford, W. P. Persons, } { S. L. Thompson..... }	..	1	..	..	1	89	\$ 2 50	\$10 00	4	W. J. Oxford	
2	Mount Olives.....	Baldwin.....	Milledgeville..	P. M. Ennis, A. J. Brown.....	..	..	..	..	2	36	1 00	2 00	1	W. J. Oxford	
3	Forest.....	Clayton.....	Astor.....	{ D. R. Thresher, T. J. Stephens, } { J. M. Stanley..... }	..	2	..	2	2	68	2 00	1 00	2	Godard	
4	Ozias.....	Henry.....	White House..	{ I. L. Gunter, B. M. Mosely, Sr., } { G. M. Hendon..... }	1	..	..	..	..	57	2 50	4 00	3	Gunter	
5	Liberty.....	Pike.....	Milner.....	W. T. Godard, E. C. Akin.....	1	1	2	..	1	2	44	1 75	1 85	4	Godard
6	Flat Rock.....	Pike.....	Milner.....	{ W. P. Harden, W. M. Hartley, } { L. J. Wilson..... }	4	5	..	..	2	..	43	2 50	5 00	2	Gunter
7	Friendship.....	Wilkinson.....	McIntire.....	{ W. F. Rogers, J. T. Brannan, } { W. M. Greer..... }	..	..	2	2	2	..	25	2 00	2 50	2	Rogers & Carr
8	Lebanon.....	Henry.....	Hampton.....	A. Payn, J. W. Derick.....	3	4	..	..	4	2	45	2 00	3 00	3	Oxford
9	Hebron.....	Clayton.....	Lovejoy.....	J. F. Brown.....	2	..	..	..	2	1	26	1 00	..	1	Gunter
10	Sandy Creek.....	Butts.....	Flovilla.....	{ S. J. Bennet, T. G. Preston, } { T. J. Higgins..... }	..	..	..	2	1	2	44	2 00	4 00	3	Godard
11	Bersheba.....	Henry.....	Locust Grove.	{ G. W. Welsh, M. L. Harris, } { I. W. Jenks..... }	3	3	..	1	..	1	65	2 75	7 50	4	Gunter
12	Mount Moriah....	Newton.....	Starsville.....	T. Y. Gregory, W. S. Kirkpatrick..	..	..	..	..	..	13	1 25	1 75	2	Oxford	
13	Beulah.....	Spalding.....	Brushy.....	No male member.....	..	..	..	..	1	13	..	..	..	No supply	
14	Nun and Wheeler.	Wilkinson.....	Bloodworth....	W. B. Carr.....	6	2	1	..	1	..	12	1 00	1 00	..	Carr & Rogers
15	Mount Pisgah....	Upson.....	Tobler.....	{ T. J. Middlebrooks, J. C. Sanders, } { A. Boyt..... }	1	..	9	..	..	..	32	2 00	2 00	1	{ Oxford and Godard
16	Euphrates.....	Glassecock....	Mitchell.....	Louis Sammons.....	..	..	..	..	..	15	1 50	1 50	3	Carr & Rogers	
17	Bethel.....	Butts.....	Jackson.....	H. M. Vaughn, F. P. Dorton.....	..	..	..	..	..	8	50	50	..	No supply	
					21	17	16	1	7	15	14	625	\$28 25	\$47 60	..

