

MINUTES

OF THE

Sixty-ninth Annual Session

OF THE

ECHACONNEE ASSOCIATION

OF PRIMITIVE BAPTISTS.

HELD WITH

Fellowship Church, Houston County, Ga.,

Sept. 17th, 18th and 19th, 1897.

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OFFICERS.

ELD. S. T. BENTLY.....MODERATOR.....Economy, Ga.  
H. E. MURRAY .....CLERK.....Eva, Ga.

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COLUMBUS, GA.:

THOS. GILBERT, PRINTER AND STATIONER.

1897.



## MINUTES.

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The sixty-ninth annual session of the Echaconnee Association of Primitive Baptists was held with the church at Fellowship, Houston county, Ga., September 17th, 18th and 19th, 1897.

1st. After singing and prayer by Eld. A. W. Patterson, of Beulah church, the introductory sermon was delivered by Eld. J. N. Nobles, from the Primitive Ebenezer Association, text 1st Corinthians, 11th chapter and 1st verse: "Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ."

2d. Called for letters sent up by the churches, which were read and the names of messengers enrolled.

3d. Proceeded to elect a Moderator and Clerk, which resulted in the re-election of Eld. S. T. BENTLY Moderator, and H. E. MURRAY Clerk.

4th. Appointed committees as follows:

*On Preaching*—Elds. W. C. Cleveland, J. T. Young, A. A. Garrett, and Brethren J. M. McFarlin, J. H. M. Cliett, H. E. Murray.

*On Business to Come Before the Body*—G. G. White, H. A. Hartsfield, J. M. Heard.

*To Examine Corresponding Minutes*—Elds. J. T. Reynolds, A. A. Garrett, and Bro. G. W. Hall.

*To Write Corresponding Letter*—Eld. I. Grant.

*On Contributions and to Distribute Corresponding Minutes*—F. W. Hammack, William Brown, B. A. Brown, Jason Reeves, John Kendrick.

5th. Invited visiting brethren to seats with us.

6th. Called for correspondence from Sister Associations, and received—

*From the Upatoi*—Elder John Rowe, Brethren J. M. Murray, E. Dukes, with letter and minutes.

*From the Marietta Old School*—Letter and minutes.

*From the Olive*—No communication.

*From the Primitive Western*—Letter and minutes.

*From the Choctawhatchie*—Letter and minutes.

*From the Lower Canoochee*—No communication.

*From the Harmony*—Elds. J. M. Spurlock, R. H. Jennings, and Bro. G. W. Israel, with letter and minutes.

*From the Primitive Pulaski*—Elds. Morgan Brown, P. G. McDonald, and Bro. J. H. Mooring, with letter and minutes.

*From the Primitive Ebenezer*—Elds. J. N. Nobles, J. P. Barrs, C. B. Spivey, and Bro. J. R. Lamb, with letter and minutes.

*From the Kehukee, of North Carolina*—A package of minutes.

Suspended the regular order of business to receive visitors from other Associations and churches not in regular correspondence, and received Eld. A. W. Patterson, from Beulah church, and Brethren W. S. Farr and B. M. Moore, from the Ocmulgee Association.

7th. Called for Petitionary Letter.

Adjourned to 8:30 o'clock to-morrow morning. Prayer by Eld. John Rowe.

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SATURDAY MORNING, September 18th, 1897.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Eld. J. N. Nobles, of the Primitive Ebenezer Association.

1st. Called the roll and dispensed with reading the Decorum.

2d. Called for the report of committee to arrange business to come before the body. The committee report the adoption of the regular order of business, as heretofore arranged, which was adopted.

3d. Called for further correspondence from Sister Associations, and received Eld. P. G. McDonald and Bro. J. H. Mooring, from the Primitive Pulaski.

4th. Renewed the invitation to visiting brethren to seats with us, and received Eld. W. W. Riner, from the Upper Canoochee Association.

5th. Called for report of committee to examine corresponding minutes. The committee report that they find nothing to claim the attention of this body, which was received.

6th. Returned correspondence to Sister Associations—

*To the Upatoi*—To convene with the church at Mt. Pisgah, Marion county, Ga., ten miles north of Buena Vista, commencing on Tuesday after the first Sunday in September, 1898. Eld. S. T. Bently, Brethren F. M. Anderson and William Brown.

*To the Olive*—To convene with Hepzibah church, nine miles northeast from Opelika, Ala., commencing on Friday before the third Sunday in October, 1897.

#### RETURN MINUTES

*To the Primitive Western*—To convene with Lebanon church, Troup county, Ga., nine miles south of LaGrange and four miles east of Gabetville, on the Atlanta and West Point R. R., commencing on Tuesday after the first Sunday in October, 1897. Eld. W. C. Cleveland.

*To the Marietta Old School*—To convene with the church at Mt. Zion, near Acworth, Ga., on Saturday before the first Sunday in October, 1897.

*To the Choctawhatchie*—To convene with the church at New Prospect, near Halesburg, Henry county, Ala., on Saturday before the fourth Sunday in October, 1897.

*To the Lower Canoochee*—To convene with the church at Upper Black Creek, twelve miles south of Statesboro.

*To the Harmony*—To convene with the church at Mars Hill, Calhoun county, Ga., sixteen miles south of Cuthbert, on Friday before the second Sunday in October, 1897. Elds. B. H. Pearson, A. A. Garrett, and Bro. G. G. White.

*To the Primitive Pulaski*—To convene with the church at Mars Hill, Worth county, Ga., five miles from Acra and five miles from Willingham, on the B. & W. R. R., on Saturday before the first Sunday in October, 1897. B. A. Heard and Eld. W. C. Cleveland.

*To the Primitive Ebenezer*—Elds. B. H. Pearson and W. C. Cleveland.

*To the Kehukee, of North Carolina*—Return minutes.

7th. Called for contributions sent up by the churches and received for minutes (\$24.50) and for the ministry (\$57.90.)

8th. Appointed Union Meetings, as follows:

1st. To convene with Shiloh church, Bibb county, Ga., embracing the fifth Sabbath in May, 1898.

2d. To convene with Sharon church, Munroe county, Ga., embracing the fifth Sabbath in July, 1898.

9th. Appointed the next session of this body to convene with the church at Friendship, Upson county, Ga., commencing on Friday before the third Sunday in September, 1898, one and one-half miles from Crest, M. & B. R. R.

10th. Agreed to have twelve hundred copies of these minutes printed and distributed in the usual manner.

11th. Called for the Corresponding Letter, which was read and adopted.

Miscellaneous matter was brought before the body, as follows :

Granted the request of Shiloh church, in that we publish their action in reference to Eld. John Herring, which appears elsewhere.

On motion it was unanimously agreed to revise our Associational Decorum.

The undersigned committee was chosen to draft a Decorum to be considered at the next session of this body :

Eld. B. H. Pearson, Eld. W. C. Cleveland, Eld. J. T. Reynolds, Eld. S. T. Bently, H. E. Murray and W. H. Smith, committee.

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The Echaconnee Association, now in session with Fellowship church, Houston county, Ga., September 18th, 1897 :

Be it known unto all to whom it may concern : That Bro. John Herring was once recognized not only as an Elder, but as a faithful, good brother in the Kingdom of Christ ; but on the 9th day of September, 1893, the church at Shiloh, in Bibb county, of which he was a member, in regular conference after gospel labor, withdrew her fellowship from him; and were it not that he refuses to recognize the action of the church, and has attached himself to an irregular and unrecognized body, and is publicly speaking and officiating as an Elder in our name, thereby misleading many, we would make no reference to his exclusion ; but for this reason and the further fact that Shiloh church has called the attention of this body to the facts in the case, we deem it our duty in the cause of truth, however painful, to publish the fact of his exclusion, so that all may have knowledge thereof.

12th. Read minutes, and after prayer by Eld. R. H. Jennings, adjourned.

S. T. BENTLY, *Moderator.*

H. E. MURRAY, *Clerk.*

## ORDER OF PREACHING.

Friday P. M., Eld. J. P. Barrs, from the Ebenezer, followed by Eld. Morgan Brown, from the Pulaski.

Saturday A. M., Eld. R. H. Jennings, from the Harmony, followed by Eld. J. M. Spurlock, from the Harmony.

Saturday P. M., Eld. W. W. Riner, from the Upper Canoochee, followed by Eld. C. B. Spivey, from the Ebenezer.

Sunday, A. M., Eld. John Rowe, from the Upatoie, followed by Eld. A. W. Patterson, from Beulah Church.

Sunday P. M., Eld. P. G. McDonald, from the Pulaski, closed by Eld. S. T. Bently, of the body.

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**NOTICE.**—A black valise, containing lady's clothing, was left in our church. The owner can recover it by giving satisfactory proof. Address H. E. Murray, Eva, Ga.

## CORRESPONDING LETTER.

*The Echaconnee Association of Primitive Baptists now in Session with Fellowship Church, Houston Co., Ga., to her Sister Associations with whom she Corresponds—Greeting:*

DEAR BRETHREN IN THE LORD—By the extended goodness and mercy of Israel's God we are again permitted to hold another session of our body in peace, love and harmony. The churches all report peace, with some prosperity.

Your correspondence has not been as full as we desire, but your ministers came, bringing the messages from the Lord much to our comfort and joy, earnestly contending for the faith once delivered unto the Saints. Dear Brethren, we desire a continuance of your correspondence, and hope that we may ever be directed of the Lord to walk orderly, that we, as a body, may retain your confidence and esteem. The next session of our body will be held, the Lord willing, with the church at Friendship, Upson county, Ga., commencing on Friday before the third Sunday in September, 1898, when and where we hope to greet your messengers again. The church is situated one and a half miles from Crest, on the M. & B. R. R.

S. T. BENTLY, *Moderator.*

H. E. MURRAY, *Clerk.*

## ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. The Introductory Sermon will be delivered.
2. Call for and read letters from the churches and enroll the names of messengers.
3. Choose Moderator and Clerk.
4. Appoint Committees as follows :
  - On preaching.
  - On business to come before the body.
  - To examine Corresponding Minutes.
  - To write Corresponding Letter.
  - On Contributions and to distribute Corresponding Minutes.
5. Invite visiting Brethren to seats with us.
6. Call for Correspondence from Sister Associations.
7. Call for Petitionary churches.

### SECOND DAY.

1. Call the roll and read Decorum.
2. Call for report of Committee to arrange business.
3. Call for further Correspondence from Sister Associations.
4. Renew the invitation to visiting Brethren to seats with us.
5. Call for the report of Committee to examine Corresponding Minutes.
6. Return Correspondence to Sister Associations.
7. Receive Contributions and distribute Corresponding Minutes.
8. Appoint Union Meetings.
9. Appoint the next session of this body.
10. Agree on the number of Minutes to have printed.
11. Call for Corresponding Letter.
12. Read Minutes and adjourn.

## THE TWELVE ARTICLES OF FAITH.

Upon which the Echaconnee Association was constituted, and for which we now earnestly contend :

1. We believe in one only true and living God, and that there are three persons in the Godhead—The Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost.
2. We believe the scriptures of the Old and New Testament are the word of God, and the only rule of faith and practice.
3. We believe in the doctrine of eternal and particular election.
4. We believe in the doctrine of original sin.
5. We believe man's impotency to recover himself from the fallen state he is in by nature by his own free will and ability.
6. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God only by the imputed righteousness of Christ.
7. We believe that God's elect shall be called, regenerated and sanctified by the Holy Ghost.
8. We believe that Saints shall persevere in grace and never finally fall away.
9. We believe that baptism and the Lord's supper are ordinances of Jesus Christ, and the true believers are the only subject of these ordinances, and that the true mode of baptism is by immersion.
10. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and general judgment.
11. We believe that the punishment of the wicked will be everlasting, and the joy of the righteous will be eternal.
12. We believe that no ministers have a right to the administration of the ordinances, only such as are regularly called and come under imposition of hands by the presbytery.



## SCALE OF THE CHURCHES.

CHURCHES	CLERKS	COUNTIES	POST-OFFICE	NAMES OF MESSENGERS	PASTORS	Baptized	Received by Letter	Confession of Faith	Restored	Dismissed by Letter	Expelled	Deceased	Total Number	Sabbath Meetings	Money for Minutes	Money for the Ministry
Sharon.....	A. J. Zelner.....	Monroe.....	Brent.....	T. J. Zellner, Wm. Brown.....	W. C. Cleveland..	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	105	1	2 00	\$ 8 00
Bethlehem...	M. R. Hardage...	Upson.....	Waymansv'l	J. M. McFarlin, T. J. Ellington, E. M. Barker.....	W. W. Childs.....	5	2	..	..	1	..	..	54	2	1 00	2 00
Ebenezer....	.....	Upson.....	.....	C. J. Avera.....	S. T. Bently.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1 00	.....
Good Hope...	G. W. Hall.....	Upson.....	Thomaston..	G. W. Hall, Robert McKinley.....	T. J. Head.....	1	0	0	5	0	1	..	34	3	75	75
Mt. Carmel...	W. B. Blasingame	Crawford..	Musella.....	W. C. Cleveland, S. T. Bently, F. W. Hammack..	W. C. Cleveland..	4	1	1	0	3	0	0	88	3	2 00	6 00
Salem.....	J. D. McGee.....	Crawford..	Knoxville...	I. Grant, J. D. McGee.....	I. Grant.....	10	0	0	1	2	4	82	2	2 00	3 00	
Providence...	J. J. Britt.....	Crawford..	Fort Valley.	John Kendrick, Henry Britt.....	S. T. Bently.....	4	0	0	0	1	2	40	1	1 00	2 00	
Emmaus.....	H. L. McKenney	Upson.....	Thomaston..	F. J. Reeves, J. T. Reeves, W. B. Pickard.....	W. C. Cleveland..	0	1	0	0	3	1	3	86	4	1 00	5 00
Fellowship..	H. E. Murray...	Houston...	Eva.....	A. A. Garrett, H. E. Murray, J. H. M. Cliett.....	J. T. Reynolds...	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	23	2	1 00	2 00
Bethlehem...	Jere Hollis.....	Bibb.....	Macon.....	W. R. Evans, J. A. Jarrold, Wm. Sanders.....	W. W. Childs.....	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	66	4	2 00	3 00
Ramah.....	J. M. Horne.....	Monroe.....	Home.....	Represented by Letter.....	W. W. Childs.....	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	25	3	75	1 75
Friendship...	J. B. Reeves.....	Upson.....	Rowland....	B. A. Brown, W. S. Bloodworth, F. B. Hancock..	S. T. Bently.....	4	0	0	1	0	0	0	50	3	1 00	4 00
Pleasant Hill	J. M. Fredrick...	Houston...	Wellston....	B. H. Pearson, W. C. Lewis, G. G. White.....	B. H. Pearson...	2	2	..	..	2	3	55	3	1 00	2 00	
Sardis.....	W. J. Heard.....	Bibb.....	Macon.....	J. T. Reynolds, J. W. Fielder.....	J. T. Reynolds...	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	42	3	1 00	2 00
Mt. Paran...	W. T. McElennay	Crawford..	Lizella.....	H. J. Brown.....	J. T. Reynolds...	4	0	0	0	2	0	1	22	1	1 50	.....
Shiloh.....	J. T. Barfield...	Bibb.....	White Water	J. T. Young, J. W. Grant, J. A. Burkner.....	I. Grant.....	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	17	3	1 50	.....
Harmony.....	L. E. Nichols.....	Pike.....	Zebulon....	J. M. Sullivan, H. C. Dickey, J. B. Martin.....	W. W. Childs.....	4	3	0	0	0	0	2	21	1	1 00	4 00
High Shoals.	J. H. Mullins.....	Monroe.....	Unionville..	J. H. Mullins, H. A. Hartsfield, W. R. S. Mann..	T. J. Head.....	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	31	2	1 00	2 00
Forsyth Prim	W. E. Zellner.....	Monroe.....	Forsyth.....	J. R. Worsham, J. N. Cox.....	W. C. Cleveland..	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	24	2	1 00	7 00
Beaver Creek	J. M. Pitts.....	Houston...	Heard.....	J. M. Heard, J. O. Watson.....	J. T. Reynolds...	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	10	4	1 50	.....

Ebenezer's Church Letter was lost before reaching the Association, hence the imperfect scale—CLERK.



