

MINUTES

OF THE

Fifty-Eighth Annual Session

OF THE

HARMONY  ASSOCIATION

OF REGULAR PRIMITIVE BAPTISTS,

HELD WITH THE

Church at Hebron, Sumter County, Georgia, Which Church is
Situated at Andersonville, Ga ,

OCTOBER 9th, 10th and 11th, 1896.

OFFICERS:

DEACON J. R. BATTLE, Andersonville, Ga., - - - - - Moderator.
ELDER R. H. JENNINGS, Dawson, Ga., - - - - - Clerk.



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MINUTES.

The Fifty-Eighth Annual Session of the Harmony Primitive Baptist Association was held with Hebron Church at Andersonville, Ga., October 9, 10 and 11, 1896.

1. The Introductory Sermon was delivered by Elder T. J. Head, of the Primitive Church at Griffin, Ga. Text, Psalms 122nd Chapter: "I was glad when they said unto me, let us go into the House of the Lord," etc.

2. After an intermission of 75 minutes the messengers assembled at the house and the Association was called to order by our Moderator, Deacon J. R. Battle. Prayer by Licentrate J. A. Adams, of the Ocmulgee Association.

3. Called for and heard letters read from 16 churches and minuted their state. Then went into choice of a Moderator and Clerk, which resulted in the election of Deacon J. R. Battle for Moderator and for Clerk R. H. Jennings.

4. Agreed to adopt the former minutes as a guide for the afternoon session.

5. Called for petition letters.

6. Invited visiting ministers and brethren to seats with us.

7. Appointed the following committees:

On Preaching—Brethren E. Fain, J. M. Cook and B. P. Brooks.

To Examine Correspondence—Elder W. T. Everitt, M. D. Tatum and W. A. Webb.

To Write Corresponding Letters—J. W. Finch, J. T. Davis and T. H. Rogers.

To Arrange Business to come before the Body—Elder B. Page, M. N. Fain.

On Finance—B. F. Market, T. N. Renfro, Elder W. T. Everitt.

On Deceased Ministers and Deacons—Elder W. T. Everitt, W. A. Webb, W. O. Williams and B. F. Market.

8. Called the roll and read the decorum.

9. Called for Correspondence and received—

From Upatoie—Minutes by her messengers, J. M. Gilbert, W. P. Russell, J. Ranley, Licentrate H. H. Philips, D. McMichael, A. Jordan, J. M. Murray and Elder S. F. Philips.

From Union—No tidings.

From Choctawhatchee, Ala.—No tidings.

From the Flint River—Elder S. E. Davis and Brother T. O. Battle.

From Pulaski—Minutes by the hands of Elders I. P. Porter and P. G. McDonald.

From the Olive—Received minutes.

From the Echeconnee—Brothers J. M. Brown, J. S. McGee and J. W. Fielder.

10. Received visiting ministers by the Moderator. Extended hand in token of love. Received Elder T. J. Head, from Griffin Primitive church

Elders D. H. Hitchcock, D. S. McCowen and Licentrate J. A. Adams from Ocmulgee Association, Elder W. Lively, from Connech Association of Alabama Elder A. W. Patterson, of Evergreen Association, Elder R. H. Barwick, of Oklochnee, Elder A. A. Garrett, from Fellowship, Houston county, Ga.

11. Appointed Union Meetings as follows:

First District—Antioch church, Louvale, Ga., beginning on Friday before the 5th Sunday in August, 1897.

Second District—Liberty church, Sumter, Ga., beginning on Friday before the 5th Sunday in May, 1897.

Third District—Antioch church, beginning on Friday before the 5th Sunday in January, 1897.

12. On motion, adjourned until 9 o'clock Saturday morning. Prayer by Elder D. L. Hitchcock of Ocmulgee Association.

13. Met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Rev. R. H. Barwick, of the Oklochnee Association.

14. Heard report of the Committee on Business, the order of which is as follows:

15. Extended further invitation for Correspondence.

16. Called for Report of Committee to Examine Correspondence. Reported nothing claiming our attention.

17. Return Correspondence to sister Associations: To Upatoi, Fellowship Church, Harris county, on G. M. R. R., at Shiloh Station, beginning on Tuesday after the first Sunday in September next. Messengers: J. P. Brooks, Elders B. Page, R. H. Jennings, J. R. Battle.

To Union. Messenger: R. H. Jennings.

To Choctawhatchee of Alabama: E. Fain, Elder J. L. Blackshear, T. H. Rogers, B. P. Brooks.

To Echeconnee, to convene with Fellowship Church, Houston county, Ga., five miles from Powersville on C. R. R. Convenes on Friday before the 3rd. Sunday in September, 1897. R. H. Jennings, J. R. Battle, T. N. Renfro. W. A. Webb, R. K. Webb.

To Olive of Alabama. Send Minutes.

To Primitive Pulaski, to convene at Mars Hill Church, 7 miles from Acree, 6 miles from Willingham, on B. & W. R. R. Convenes on Saturday before the first Sunday in October, 1897. R. H. Jennings, B. Page, E. Fain, W. A. Webb, J. R. Battle, I. S. Mills.

To Flint River, to convene with Trinity Church, 3 miles from Whigham, on Ala. M. R. R. at usual time. G. Pritchett, T. H. Rogers.

18. Called for contributions and distribute correspondent minutes. Received for minutes, \$22.75; for correspondence, \$58.90.

19. Agreed to have 1,000 minutes printed and divided as follows: 750 to be distributed among the Church, the remainder to be retained for correspondence. Also agreed to give the remainder of funds after paying expense of printing and distributing the minutes to the Clerk for his services.

20. Called for report of committee on Deceased Ministers and Deacons, which was read and adopted as seen elsewhere. Then the Association agreed to have a resolution published in our religious papers, and the following committee was appointed to do same: Elders W. T. Everitt, R. H. Jennings and Brother B. F. Market.

21. Read Corresponding Letters, which were adopted.

22. Appointed next Session of the Body to be held with Mars Hill Church, Calhoun county, Ga., 16 miles Southwest of Cuthbert, Ga., on S. W. R. R., 10 miles north of Arlington, Ga., on the Columbia Extension. Those coming in can be met at latter place. Begins on Friday before the Second Sunday in October at 10 o'clock A. M.

23. Resolved, That the thanks of this Body be tendered to our Brethren and Sisters and Friends in and around Andersonville, Ga., for the kindness and respect manifested our Body during our meeting.

24. Read the Minutes and adjourned to the stand, and on Sunday at noon the Association adjourned to the before named place. Prayer by Elder P. G. McDonald, of Pulaski Association.

J. R. BATTLE, Moderator,

R. H. JENNINGS, Clerk.

ORDER OF PREACHING.

Friday A. M., Elder T. J. Head, of Griffin Primitive Church.

Friday P. M., Elder J. P. Porter, of Pulaski Association, followed by Elder S. F. Phillips of Upatoi Association.

Saturday A. M., Elder A. W. Patterson of Ebenezer Association, followed by Elder W. Lively of Connech Association.

Saturday P. M., Elder S. E. Davis of Flint River Association, followed by Elder D. G. McCowen of Ocmulgee Association.

Sunday A. M., Elder R. H. Barwick of Oklochnee Association, followed by Elder D. L. Hitchcock of Ocmulgee Association.

Ordained Ministers of Harmony Association.

Elder W. T. Everitt, Dawson, Ga.

Elder R. H. Jennings, Dawson, Ga.

Elder J. L. Blackshear, Cuthbert, Ga.

Elder J. M. Spurlock, Coleman, Ga.

Elder B. Page, Warner, Ga.

Elder Doc Chambliss, Chamblisston, Ga.

Elder H. B. Bland, Georgetown, Ga.

CORRESPONDING LETTER.

We, the Harmony Primitive Baptist Association, now in session with the Church at Hebron, to our Sister Associations with whom we correspond sendeth Greeting:

DEAR BRETHREN: In the faith of our Master we have been permitted, through the mercies of our God, to hold another session of our body. All our churches are represented but one one and bring tidings of peace and love. Our business has been transacted in peace and love. We have received and rejoiced at the coming of your correspondents and the visiting ministers. They have born tidings of love and preached Jesus and Him crucified.

The next session of our body will be held with Mars Hill Church, Calhoun county, Ga., 16 miles south of Cuthbert on the S. W. R. R., and 10 miles north of Arlington, on the Columbia Extension. Those coming by rail will be met The Association will meet at the usual time, Friday, at 10 o'clock, before the second Sunday in October next.

J. R. BATTLE, Moderator.

R. H. JENNINGS, Clerk.

IN MEMORIAM.

Sacred to the Memory of Elders J. M. Woodall and P. L. York and Deacons S. Pearson and Rufus A. Dodson.

Elder J. M. Woodall departed this life July 27, 1896, at the ripe old age of 78 years. He had been a Baptist for 51 years, had been ordained as minister 25 or 26 years. His life as a pastor was exemplary. He served the Association 11 years as clerk and 5 years as moderator, and would have been kept as moderator until his death but he became so feeble he could not attend the meetings. He was a very able doctrinal preacher and could preach the plan of salvation very simple and childlike.

Elder P. L. York departed this life July 4, 1896. He, too, will be greatly missed, for he was a useful man and a very able experimental preacher. His preaching was a source of comfort to all the dear saints of God. He was 66 years old at the time of his death, and had been a member of the church 25 years and had been an ordained minister for 24 years. But God has called both of these dear brethren home and we can only pray God to raise up other ones to fill their vacancies. Our remembrance of them is sweet, to part with them is sad, but we mourn not as those who have no hope, for we feel that our loss is their gain, for they are at rest in the presence of our blessed Master.

Deacon Shady Pearson departed this life September 16, 1896, in his 89th year. He was one of the oldest, if not the oldest, members of the Association. He joined the church in 1836, and was baptised by Elder Carter Parker. He was ordained Deacon in 1859 at Slaughter Creek Church, where his membership was until his death. He was an exemplary man, and the enemies of truth would give him the highest praise for his consecrated walk.

Deacon Rufus A. Dodson, who was a member of Liberty Church, departed this life on the 28th day of June, 1896. Brother Dodson departed this life in the highest esteem of the Baptists. He joined the Church about 1873, and was soon ordained a Deacon, which office he filled honorably until his death. We are not posted as to his age, but think him in the fifties some where.

Both of these dear brethren will be sadly missed, for they were very useful. Often, indeed, do their names appear as delegates from their respective churches to the Association. They were faithful to look after their pastors and the general financial interest of the Church. We feel that such Deacons are the gifts of God; and God has given and He has taken away, so blessed be the name of the Lord. We can only pray God to fill the vacancies made in Slaughter Creek and Liberty churches with His presence, and may He fill their places in these churches with other suitable ones, as well as in our body. We mourn with the four above brethren's families, but we would say to the bereaved to weep not. They are only gone before to bask in the presence of our Blessed Master, and may all the bereaved be prepared thus to depart when death shall come.

ELDER W. T. EVERITT,
BROTHER B. F. MARKETT,
BROTHER W. O. WILLIAMS,
BROTHER W. A. WEBB,
Committee.

