

MINUTES

OF THE

Fiftieth and Fifty-First Annual Sessions

OF THE

Ochoopee Primitive Baptist Association

HELD WITH THE CHURCH AT

Union, Laurens County Georgia

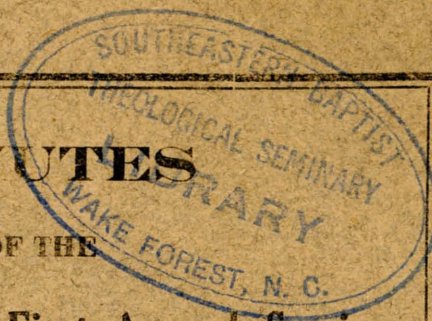
October the 8th, 9th, 10th, 1915

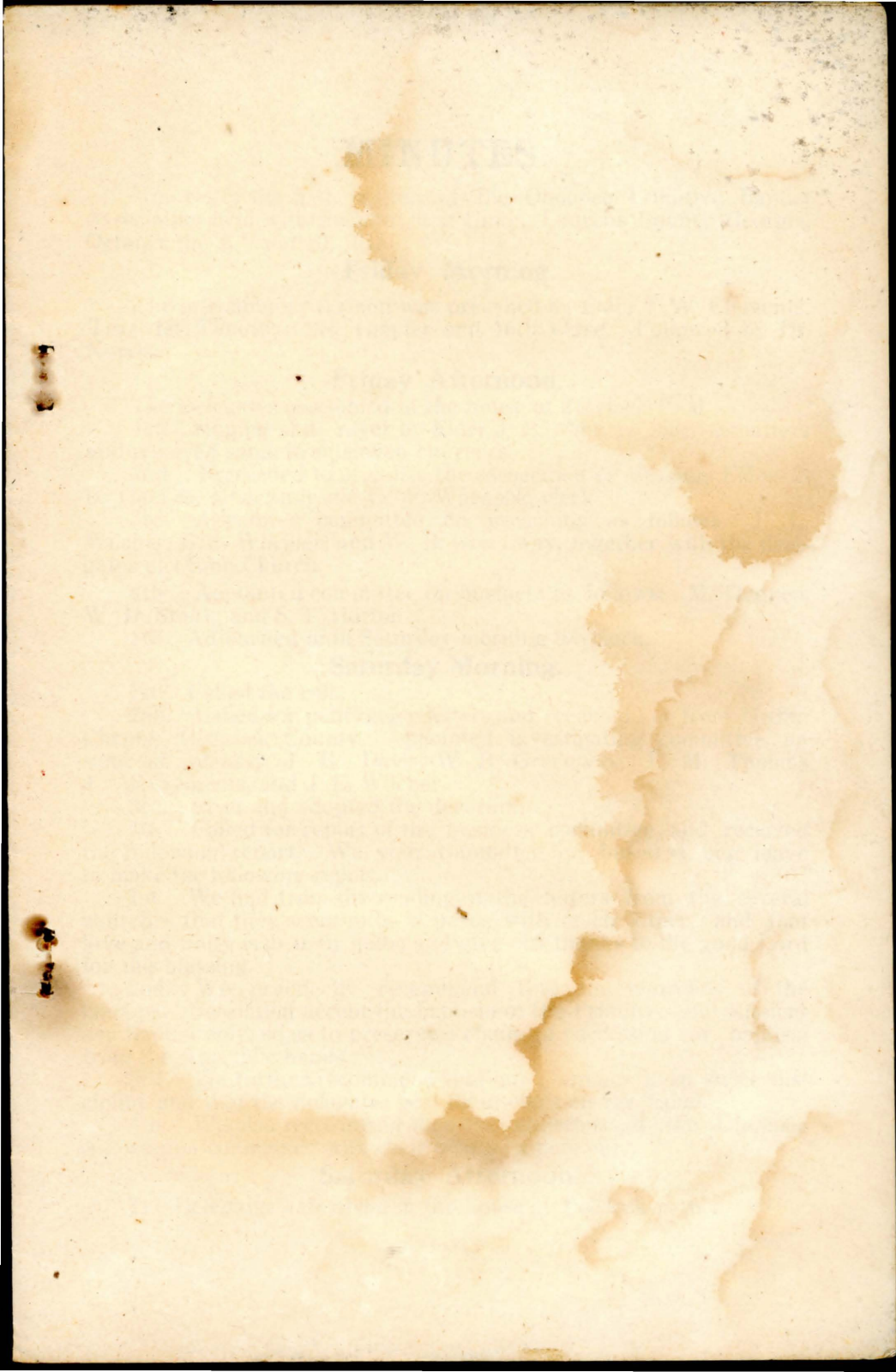
AND

Mt. Pleasant, Johnson County,

October the 6th, 7th, 8th, 1916

THE HEADLIGHT PRINT
• WRIGHTSVILLE, GA







MINUTES.

Minutes of the 5 th session of the Ohoopce Primitive Baptist Association held with the church at Union, Laurens County, Georgia, October the 8, 9 and 10, 1915.

Friday Morning.

The introductory sermon was preached by Elder J W. Clements. Text 1st Timothy, 3rd chapter and 16th verse. Followed by Dr. Norris.

Friday Afternoon.

The Delegates assembled in the house at 2 o'clock P. M.

1st. Singing and prayer by Elder J B. Thomas, called for letters and received same from eleven churches.

2nd. Proceeded to organize the association by electing Elder J. B. Thomas, Moderator and C. W. Warnock, clerk

3rd. Appointed committee on preaching as follows J. E. Wilcher, B. J. Wheeler, and W. B. Greenway, together with the delegates of Union Church

4th Appointed committee on business as follows: M. Thigpen, W. D. Smith, and S. T. Horton

5th Adjourned until Saturday morning 9 o'clock.

Saturday Morning.

1st Called the roll.

2nd. Called for petitionary letters and received one from Griffin Chapel, Glascock County. Appointed investigating committee on same as follows: J. B. Davis, W. B. Greenway, J. M. Thomas J. W. Clements, and J. E. Wilcher.

3rd. Read and adopted the decorum.

4th. Called for report of the business committee and received the following report. We, your committee on business beg leave to make the following report.

1st We find from the reading of the letters from the several churches that they seem to be at peace with each other, and that love and unity is in their midst and give our thanks to the good Lord for this blessing

2nd. We practically recommend that the churches of the Ohoopce Association accept the baptism of the Primitive and Missionary Baptist only, so as to preserve a chain of succession of baptism from the Apostolic hands

3rd We further recommend that our churches keep strict discipline and that the delegates post themselves on the same.

4th. We also recommend that the churches of the Ohoopce Association commence with their own members only.

Saturday Afternoon.

The Delegates assembled in the house at 2 o'clock p. m.

1st Called the roll.

2nd Called for Ministerial report and recived the same as follows: J. M. Thomas, J. W. Clements, W. H. Stephens, J. M. Rowland and W. B. Caraway.

3rd Appointed: Dr. S M Norris and J. B Davis. to write the memorial of the late Elder Jordan Nor is and appointed S. T. Horton to write the obituary of sister Laura Perdue.

4th Appointed: r. S M Norris to write a circular letter or pamphlet of the Ohoopee Primitive Baptist Association and to employ such help as he might need to assist him.

5th Appointed our next general meeting to convene with Union and Wheeler church, Wilkinson county Georgia, on the 5th Sunday in July, 1916, Friday and Saturday before Appcinted Elder J. B. Thomas to preach the Introductory Sermon and his alternate

6th. Appointed o r nex Association to convene with the church at Mt Pleasant, Johnson county eorgia on the 2nd, Sunday in Oct. 1916, and Friday and Saturday before. Appointed Elder J. W. Clements

to Preach the Introductory sermon and Dr S M Norris his alternate.

We return our thanks to the Lord for the care and keeping of so many of our lives and return our thanks to the church at Union and vicinity at large for their kind hospitality during our stay with them and pray they may have your fourfold in this world and life eternal in the one to come.

Respectfully submitted,

M. TIGPEN,
W. D SMITH,
S. T. HORTON

Committee.

4th. Called for report of investigating committee and received the following report: We your committee recommend that you receive Griffin Chapel as follows: We find six of her members Baptized by Elder W. H. Stephens and two by the Missionary Baptist. We reecomend that she be received with the above eight members. Report received and adopted.

5th. Adjourned until 7 o'clock P. M.

6th Preaching 11 o'clock A M by Elder J. M. Thomas, text Exodus, 3 chapter, 14th verse, followed by W H Stephens.

7th. Called for contributions and received \$ 9 00 for minutes and \$6 75 for Ministerial purposes.

8th Appointed R. A Mimbs and S C Wood as finance committee.

9th Adjourned after singing and prayer by Elder J. W. Clements. Preaching 4 o'clock P. M. by Elder N. M. Adkinson followed by Dr. S M Norris

Sunday morning; singing led by Professor J. M. Spivey, services opend by J. M. Rowland.

STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCHES	DELEGATES	COUNTIES	PASTORS	Baptized	Received by Letter	Dismissed by Letter	Restored	Expelled	Dead	Total	Contributions	Meeting Sundays	C'm union Meetings	Donation to Pastors
St. Catherine	S. F. Horton	Montgomery	J. M. Thomas	1			2	3	59	2	5			28.00
Coo Springs	R. T. Reynolds, J. T. Hoover	Wilkerson	W. H. Stephens						10	.50				18.76
Nunn and Wheeler Union	C. W. Warnock, D. E. Wood	Laurens	M. B. Caraway			1		1	45	2.00	3	July		38.10
Silverleaf	H. N. Stewart, T. F. Foskey	Laurens	J. M. Thomas							2.00				
Norris Chapel	W. B. Greenway, M. Thigpen	Laurens		2					41	1.00				
Mt. Pleasant	J. B. Davis, V. J. Wheeler	Johnson	J. M. Thomas	6	4	1	3	223	2	50	2	July		3.80
Smith's Chapel	W. D. Smith, J. L. F. Toler	Johnson	J. M. Thomas				2	1	65	1.50	3	July		27.45
Philadelphia	J. R. Wilson, W. B. Caraway	Johnson	W. H. Stephens						12	1.00	2	July		
Brantley's Chapel	W. A. Page, W. A. Smith	Johnson	J. M. Thomas			2			28	2.00	1	May		38.30
Bethsadia	Hardee Thigpen, W. V. Thigpen					1			55	1.50	4	July		
Euphratus	I. E. Wilcher, W. M. May	Glascock	W. H. Stephens			1			49	2.00	3	July		
Griffin's Chapel		Glascock	W. H. Stephens	6	2				8	.50				

MINUTES

Minutes of the Fifty first session of the Ohoopee Association held with the church at Mt. Pleasant Johnson County Ga., Oct 6 7, 8, 1916.

Friday morning 11 o'clock. The Introductory sermon was preached by Elder J B Thomas from the sixth Chapter and 16th verse of Jeremiah

1st After an intermission of one hour and thirty minutes the delegates assembled in the house

2nd. Called for letters and received same from eleven churches

3rd. *Proceeded to organize the Association by electing J B. Thomas Moderator and J. F. Brantley Clerk.

4th. Called for petitionary letters and received none

5th. Appointed committee on preaching as follows: S. T. Horton, S M Toler, J E. Wilcher, H. B. Claxton, J. B. Davis

6th Appointed committee on business as follows J B. Davis, J M Thomas, W. B. Greenway.

7th Order of preaching; Saturday morning 11 o'clock by J M. Thomas.

8th Adjourned until Saturday morning 9 o'clock.

Saturday Morning 9 o'clock.

The Association convened promptly at nine o'clock and was opened by singing and prayer by J. H. Warnick

1st. Called the roll

2nd Read and adopted the docorum.

3rd Called for report of the business committee and received the following report.

We your humble committee on business beg leave to make the following report.

1st Finding the churches well represented and prospering reported.

2nd. We resolve that the Lord be thanked by every encumbrant.

3rd. We recommend that the minutes of 1915 and 1916 be printed combined.

4th. We ask the several churches to conform to strict discipline, also that we commune with our members only.

5th. Also that each Minister keep a correct record of the sermons he preaches, also to keep a record of the donations he receives

6th. Also that the Clerks of the several churches insert in their letters the amount donated to these Pastors

7th. We recommend that the next Association convene with Bethsadia church, also that the next general meeting convene with Brantleys Chapel

8th. We also recommend that each church call for either the Association or the general meeting

9th. We extend our thanks to the church and vicinity of Mt. Pleasant for their kind hospitality toward us during our stay with them and we pray the blessings of heaven upon them and your assembly,

Yours Submitted,

J M. Thomas,
W B Greenway,
J B Davis

P S We recommend that Bro J. R. Wilson be paid \$1.80 out of the donations of this Association for his expenses as investigating committee ordered from the General meeting

Order of Preaching Saturday. 3 P. M. by W. H. Stephens

The Association adjourned until 1:30 o'clock.

The Association reassembled at 1:30 o'clock and took up regular order of business

1st. Appointed a committee on finance as follows: C. L. Claxton, M. B. Wheeler, R D Powell

2nd Appointed our next Association to convene with Bethsaida church, Emanuel County Ga., commencing on Friday before the second Sunday in October 1917 J M. Thomas to preach the introductory sermon, E. B. Warnick his alternate.

3rd Appointed our next General meeting to convene with Brantleys Chapel commencing on Friday before the fifth Sunday in July 1917 J M Thomas to preach the introductory sermon, W. H. Stephens his alternate

4th. Called for contributions and received \$15.50

5th. Report of finance committee collected \$11.11

Order of preaching Sunday morning 10 o'clock, J. B. Thomas followed by J M. Thomas

Order of preaching Sunday evening 3 o'clock, W. H. Stephens followed by Marcus Johnson.

Agreed to have 500 minutes printed and the Clerk Superintend the printing and distribution of same and the Clerk have all the money paid in for minutes above actual cost of printing and distribution.

Adjourned to meet the Association at Bethsaida

J. B. Thomas, Mod.

J F Brantley, Clerk.

Report of J. M. Thomas.

Smith Church \$41.50 Silver leaf \$21.50 Brantleys Chapel

\$4.95 Mount Pleasant \$63.95

Number of Sermons 163

Report of W. H. Stephens.

Euphratus Church \$25.45 Num N Wheeler Church \$21.83.

Griffin Chapel Church \$42.25. Rockledge \$30.00. Bethsaida \$4.35. Donation by friends \$2.67 Number of Sermons 156.

Report of W. B. Caraway.

Preached 42 sermons, Received \$65.

Obituary.

Sacred to the memory of Laura B. Purdue, daughter of S. H. Horton, Born **January 5th**, 187, joined Mt Pleasant Primitive Baptist Church **July 1888**, in which was a member until death. She parted this life **June 5th** 1915, leaving a husband and 11 children, 2 brothers and 1 sister to mourn her absence.

A dear one from us is gone, her voice with us is stilled, a vacant place in our home, that never can be filled. Wrote by her Brother S. T. Horton

NAMES OF CLERKS AND THEIR POSTOFFICES.

Cool Spring Church, Hampton Cook	Allentown, Ga.
Mt. Pleasant Church, J. B. Davis.....	Bartow, Ga.
Bethsaida Church, C. T. Thigpen.....	Adrian, Ga.
Norris Chapel Church, M. Thigpen.....	Rockledge, Ga.
Philadelphia Church, J. R. Wilson	Wrightsville, Ga.
Euphratus Church, W. M. Walden	Gibson, Ga.
Union Church, S. C. Wood, R. F. D. 7.....	Dublin Ga.
Smith's Chapel Church, J. L. F. Toler.....	Adrian, Ga.
St. Catharine Church, E. B. Perdue.....	Soperton, Ga.
Silverleaf Church, Ashley Stewart, R. F. D. 6.....	Dublin, Ga.
Brantley's Chapel Church, J. M. Smith	Wrightsville, Ga.
Nun and Wheeler Church, R. T. Reynolds	Milledgeville, Ga.
Griffin Chapel, J. Wilkins	Gibson, Ga.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

Article 1. We believe in one only true and living God and a trinity of persons in the Godhead—Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

Article 2. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the Word of God and the only rule of faith and practice.

Article 3. We believe in the doctrine of eternal and personal election of a definite number of the human race chosen in Christ before the foundation of the world that they should be holy and without blame before Him in love.

Article 4. We believe in a covenant of redemption ordered in all things infallibly sure existing between God the Father and God the Son

Article 5. We believe in the fall of man and the communication of Adam's corrupt nature to his posterity by ordinary generation, and their impotency to recover themselves from the fallen state that they are in by sin and wicked works by their own free will and ability.

Article 6. We believe that all chosen in Christ shall hear the voice of the Son of God and be effectually called regenerated and born again, and that thus born again are justified in the spirit of God only by the righteousness of Jesus Christ imputed to them and received by faith.

Article 7. We believe that all the saints of God thus called by the holy spirit and justified by the righteousness of Christ shall be preserved in grace and not one of them finally fall away so as to be lost.

Article 8. We believe in the doctrine of the resurrection, both of the just and the unjust, and a general judgment that the joys of the righteous will be eternal and the punishment of the wicked everlasting.

Article 9. We believe that the Church of God is a local body of professing baptized believers who have gained Christian fellowship with each other and have given themselves up to the Lord and to one another, and have covenanted together to keep house for God, agreeable to the rules of the gospel and therefore be kept organically separate and distinct from and inde-

pendent of the world and its institutions and is the highest and only ecclesiastical authority known to the word of God.

Article 10. We believe that Jesus Christ is the great head of the Church, and her only law-giver; that the government is with the Church itself and is the privilege of each member that the discipline cannot be legally extended beyond her own scripture jurisdiction, and is intended for reclamation or expulsion of those members who may be disorderly either in principle or practice; and must be faithfully kept up for God's glory and the peace and unity of the Church

Article 11. We believe that water baptism and the Lord's Supper and the washing of the saints' feet are ordinances of the Lord, and are to be administered by the authority of the Church until His second coming.

Article 12. We believe that none but regular ordained ministers have the right to administer the ordinances. Professed believers in Christ, who, in the judgment of the Church, are true Christians, are the only proper subjects for baptism, and immersion the only mode, and none but regularly baptized and orderly church members have a right to communion at the Lord's table.

CONSTITUTION.

1st. This Association shall, if they see proper, meet annually as an advisory council.

2d. This Association shall be composed of messengers from the several Churches so that each Church may have two messengers, if they choose, and no more; and these messengers' names shall be inserted in their letters.

3d. This Association shall have power to make its own rules to govern itself, but none of its rules shall be binding on the Churches, for they are free and of right ought to be.

4th. It shall be the duty of this Association to give its best advice in cases of difficulty, and endeavor to keep up a union among the Churches composing this body, and to arrange general meetings.

5th. This Association shall admit into its body any Church which it finds sound in faith and moral in practice; also if any Church in order wishes to withdraw from this body at its discretion, on application, have a letter of dismission.

DECORUM.

Item 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; producing letters from their respective Churches; certifying their appointment, shall be entitled to a seat.

Item 2. In the letters from different Churches will be expressed the members in full fellowship, those baptized, received by letter, dismissed, excommunicated, or dead since the last Association.

Item 3. 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 the gospel ordinances. These things shall rest entirely with the Church.

Item 4. This Association shall have a Moderator and Clerk, who shall be chosen by the members present; who shall be of the body, who shall hold their office until another election.

Item 5. If any Church desires to be admitted into this union, it shall petition by letter and delegates, and if, upon examination, it is found orthodox and orderly, shall be received by the Moderator extending the right hand of fellowship to said delegates.

Item 6. Ordained Ministers of our Churches shall be permanent delegates while in fellowship and shall not be entitled to vote except in the ab-

sence of the elected delegates.

Item 7. Each Church shall have two delegates and no more, except their ordained Ministers.

Item 8. Each motion having a second shall claim the attention of the body without being withdrawn by the member making it.

Item 9. Every person who speaks in debate shall stand and address the Moderator and shall not be interrupted unless he departs from the subject.

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

Item 11. Any brother has the privilege to speak, and no reflection shall be cast on the speaker.

Item 12. No person shall absent himself from the body without leave from the Moderator.

Item 13. The names of delegates shall be enrolled by the Clerk and called at the opening of the meeting.

Item 14. The Moderator shall have the same privilege of speech as any other member, provided the chair is filled, and shall have no vote except when the body be equally divided.

Item 15. The Clerk's duty is to keep a record of the proceedings of the body.

Item 16. The Minutes of the Association shall be read and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before he closes its proceedings.

Item 17. Any member who shall break these rules shall be reprovod by the body as they think proper. This Association shall open and close with prayer.

Ordained Ministers.	Membership	County	Post Office & State
J. T. Carter.....	Philadelphia	Johnson	Pembroke, Ga.
E. D. Childers ...	Cool Springs	Wilkerson	Dublin, Ga.
J. B. Thomas	Silverleaf.....	Laurens.....	Dublin, Ga., R 7.
J. W. Clements ..	Silverleaf.....	Laurens.....	Towns, Ga.
J. F. Steptoe	Mt. Pleasant.....	Johnson	Meeks, Ga.
J. M. Thomas	St. Catherine	Montgomery	Orland, Ga.
E. B. Warnock ...	St. Catherine	Montgomery	Towns, Ga.
J. M. Rowland ...	St. Catherine	Montgomery	Adrian, Ga.
W. H. Stephens ..	Mt. Pleasant.....	Johnson.....	Kite, Ga.
J. T. McDaniel ...	Mt. Pleasant.....	Johnson.....	Soperton, Ga.
LICENTIATES			
W. A. Redfern ..	Enphratus	Glascok.....	Warthen, Ga.
S. E. Wood	Silverleaf.....	Laurens.....	Dublin, Ga R 7
W. B. Careway ..	Philadelphia	Johnson.....	Griana, Ga.
S. L. Fortner	Mt. Pleasant.....	Johnson.....	Kite, Ga.

STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCHES	DELEGATES	COUNTIES	PASTORS	Baptized	Received by Letter	Dismissed by Letter	Restored	Expelled	Dead	Total	Contributions	C'm union Meetings
Bethsadia	Hardee Thigpen, ..	.....	J. M. Thomas, .....	..	2	..	..	..	1	56	1.50	.....
Brantley's Chapel ..	T. J. Brantley, J. F. Brantley ..	Johnson	J. M. Thomas .....	..	..	..	2	..	1	28	2.00	May-September ..
Coo Springs .....	.....	Wilkerson .....	.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.....
Euphratus	I. E. Wilcher,	GlascocK	W. H. Stephens,	2	..	..	..	..	1	52	2.00	July
Griffin's Chapel	W. H. Walden, T. N. Wilkins ..	GlascocK	W. H. Stephens .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.50	July
Mt. Pleasant	J. B. Davis, H. P. Claxton	Johnson	J. M. Thomas	3	1	2	1	2	3	225	2.50	July
Norris Chapel	W. B. Greenway,	Laurens	W. H. Stephens	2	..	..	..	..	..	38	1.50	August
Nunn and Wheeler ..	.....	.....	.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.50	July
Philadelphia	J. R. Wilson W. B. Caraway ..	Johnson	W. B. Caraway .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	12	1.00	July
Silverleaf	W. N. Stewart, J. A. Fulford ..	Laurens	J. M. Thomas	12	..	4	2	2	3	114	..	July
St. Catherine	S. T. Horton	Montgomery ..	J. M. Thomas	5	2	..	..	2	1	..	2.00	July
Smith's Chapel	S. N. Toler, W. R. Foskey	Johnson	J. M. Thomas	1	4	..	..	1	..	69	1.50	July
Union	J. H. Warnick	Laurens	W. B. Caraway .....	..	2	2	..	..	..	43	1.50	July

Obituary.

In memory of Rev. Jordan Norris, who was born April 15th, 1834, died August 19th, 1915.

He was married to Miss Julia Huffman in 1853. They lived happy together till 1861, when he volunteered his service to fight the battle of his country. Leaving his wife and three small children, he joined the fourteenth Georgia Regiment Company F. where he remained and fought gallantly to the close of the war, in 1865. During which time he was in thirty two regular engagements, besides many scummages with the enemy. (Yankey.)

He could say more about that than the most of soldiers, his name was never on the sick list, he was always ready for duty, ever ready to stack arms with his company. He was elected ordely sargant, soon after he enlisted, which office he filled with great honor to himself. to the satisfaction of his Comrades.

At the battle of Chancersville when the colored bear was shot down and the flag riddled with bullets, he picked up the flag, waved it over his head and shouted to his comrades to rally the flag. He was converted on the plank road in Va., to the true relious of Jesus Christ, at the close of the war, he came home, found his wife and three children living. he joined the Primitive Baptist Church at Oaky Grove, was baptized by his father, Wm Norri. Soon afterwards he was called to ministry, and heeded the calling he was called to ordination Mt Zion Baptist Church was ordained by Rev. Spencer Meeks and Bro. S M. Norris, he went forth preaching and organizing Churches. He was the leader in organizaing seven Churches, he helped to ordain six preachers that we have record of, who remain faithful. One of them has carried his credentials handed out by him untarnished to the glory of God. He Baptized about five hundred according to his own statement, just be ore he died.

He leaves one Brother, one Sister, seven children and many Grand children to mourn his loss, though they do not mourn as one that had no hope. Their loss is his eternal gain.

Bro. and Sister let us live to meet him again at the judgement morn when he shall rise to put on immortality to die no more.

This done by order of Association at Union Church on Oct 9th, 1915.

J. B. Davis, Com.
S M Norris.

