

MINUTES

—OF THE—

THIRTY-SIXTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Harmony Primitive Baptist Association

CONVENED WITH THE

NEW BETHEL CHURCH,

October 10th, 11th and 12th, 1874.

AMERICUS, GA. :
"SUMTER REPUBLICAN" BOOK AND JOB OFFICE.
1874.

MINUTES.

SATURDAY MORNING, October 10th.

1st. The Introductory sermon was preached by Elder J. Everett, from the 3d chapter of Ephesians and 8th verse, "Unto me who am less than the least of all saints is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ."

2d. After one hour's intermission, the delegates from each of the different churches assembled in the house, and the former M. D., Elder I. R. Teete being absent by reason of afflictions, on motion Elder W. Hubbard, was appointed M. D., pro-tem, to organize the body. Prayer by Elder J. R. Respass.

3d. Received letters from the different churches and minuted their state.

4th. Elected Elder T. K. Pursley Moderator, and re-elected Elder J. M. Woodall, Clerk.

5th. Appointed the following Committees: "On business to come before the body"—Elder E. Blackshear, and H. Bussey. On Preaching—Elders W. Hubbard, J. Coldwell; J. Irwin, with the delegates from this church. On Documents—Elders E. Nowell and W. Richardson. To write the Corresponding Letter—Elder J. Everett and J. W. Lowe.

6th. Invited Ministers of our faith and order to seats with us.

7th. Called for correspondence from sister Associations, and received from the Choctawhatchie, W. Deshizo, No Letter or Minutes. Upatoie—Letter and Minutes by the hand of her Messengers, Elders J. Hamilton, J. R. Respass, and Brethren J. Dodson, W. Clark and S. Phillips. Union—No Letter or Messenger. Ocklocknee—Letter and Minutes by her Messenger, Elder H. G. Fuller. Beulah—J. C. Carter, no Letter or Minutes. Pulaska—No Letter or Messengers.

8th. Adjourned until 9 o'clock, Monday morning. Prayer by H. Bussey.

MONDAY MORNING, October 12th, 1874.

9th. Met according to adjournment. Prayer by Elder J. Hamilton.

10th. Called for the Report of the Committee appointed to arrange the business to come before the body. The same was read, received and adopted.

11th. Call the roll and read the decorum.

12th. Called for further correspondence and received Elder W. Cleavlin, from the Eachaconnee.

13th. Called for Petitionary Letters.

14th. Called for the Report of the Committee appointed to examine corresponding minutes. They report they find nothing to claim the attention of this body.

15th. Called for the Circular Letter prepared by Elder W. Hubbard. The same was read, received and adopted.

16th. Appointed Elder W. Hubbard to preach the next Introductory Sermon, and Elder J. Davis, his alternate. On motion, the regular order of business was suspended and the Association agreed to have no Circular Letter for the next Association.

17th. Returned correspondence—To the Upatoie, to convene with the church at Mount Mariah, six miles North of Columbus, Muscogee county, commencing on Tuesday after the first Sunday in September, 1875.

Elders W. Hubbard, T. K. Purseley, H. Bussey, W. O. Shirling, and Brethren J. Irwin, T. A. McWilliams, to the Oclocknee to convene with the Church Mount Mariah, Jefferson county, Florida, 16 miles South of Boston, commencing on Saturday before the fourth Sabbath, inst. Elder E. Blackshear and Brother J. E. Bozeman to the Choctawhatchee, to convene with the Church at Ebenezer, Henry county, Ala., commencing on Saturday before the fourth Sabbath in 1875. Elders T. K. Purseley, J. M. Woodall, W. O. Shirling, and Brethren J. H. Carter, G. Prichit, J. R. Webb, W. Richardson, N. M. Nickelson, W. Hursey, T. Peake, Z. Evans. S. E. Davis to the Echeconnee, to convene with the Church at Beaver Creek, 9 miles East from Perry, Houston county, Ga., commencing on Saturday before the third Sabbath in Sempter, 1875. Elders E. Nowell, T. K. Purseley, J. M. Woodall, W. O. Shirling, Brethren J. R. Webb and W. Richardson, to the Union, to convene with the Church at Hebrown, Brooks county, Ga., commencing on Saturday before the third Sabbath, inst. Elder W. Hubbard, and Brethren T. A. McWilliams and Z. Evans, to the Beulah, to convene with the Church at Mount Gilliard, 12 miles North of Columbus, Lee county, Ala., commencing on Saturday before the third Sabbath in September, 1875. Elders W. Hubbard, H. Bussey, and Brother T. A. McWilliams, to the Pulaski, to convene with a Church in Wilcox county, Ga., (the name of the Church is not known by the Clerk) commencing on Saturday before the first Sabbath in October, 1875. Elders W. O. Shirling, W. Hursey.

18th, Called for the Corresponding Letter; the same was read, received and adopted.

19th. Appointed Union Meetings as follows: First District, at Mount Olive, Chattahoochee county, commencing on Friday before the fifth Sunday in August, 1875. Second District, at Liberty, Sumter county, commencing on Friday before the fifth Sunday in August, 1875. Third District, at Marshall, Calhoun county, commencing on Friday before the third Sunday in July, 1875.

20th. Called for contributions and received \$49 20 for Minutes,

and for Correspondence \$64.

21st. Agreed to have one thousand copies of these Minutes printed and allow the Clerk \$25 for his services.

22d. Appointed the next session of this body to convene with the Church at Chickasawhatchie, near Dawson, Terrell county, Ga., to commence at 11 o'clock, on Tuesday before the second Sunday in October, 1875, and continue Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

23d. On motion, it was agreed to erase Smyrna Church from our Minutes.

27th. Read the Minutes and adjourned. Prayer by Elder W. Cleavlin.

ELDER T. K. PURSELEY, Moderator.

Elder J. M. WOODALL, Clerk.

Corresponding Letter.

The Harmony Primitive Baptist Association to her sister Associations with whom she corresponds, sends Christian love and esteem :

DEAR BRETHREN : Through the mercy of God we have been permitted to hold another session of our Body ; our Churches are all represented, and they send tidings of peace. Our Correspondence is not as full as we desire, though we feel to thank God for the ability he has afforded them to preach the plan of Salvation. Our next session will be held with the Church at Chickasawhatchie, near Dawson, Terrell county, Ga., commencing on Tuesday before the second Sunday in October, 1875, when and where we hope to meet your Correspondence in love and fellowship.

T. K. PURSELEY, Moderator.

J. M. WOODALL, Clerk.

The order of Preaching during the meeting: Saturday morning, Elder J. Everett; in the evening, Elders J. Hamilton and W. Cleavelin, Sunday morning, Elders J. R. Respass and W. Cleavelin in the evening, Elders H. G. Fuller and W. Hubbard; Monday morning, Elders J. R. Respass and H. G. Fuller.

Circular Letter :

The Harmony Primitive Baptist Association, in her Annual Session, the Thirty-Sixth, held with New Bethel Church, October 10th, 11th and 12th.

To the Churches and Members of which it is composed, sendeth Greeting :

DEAR BRETHREN : In presenting you our Annual Circular, we have made choice of the 1st verse of the third chapter of Hebrews, which reads as follows : "Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, &c." Therefore to be brethren they must be of the same family ; and to be holy brethren, they must be the children of God, for none is holy but God, and those to whom He gives his Spirit of Holiness. Therefore, to receive that Spirit of Holiness they must be born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible by the word of God that liveth and abideth forever. For God is their father, and Jerusalem that is above is free, and she is the mother of us all ; and therefore, the children are holy, they put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness. Therefore, they are holy brethren, partakers of the Heavenly calling, by which we put on the new man which is renewed in knowledge after the image of Him that created him, being called with the holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace given us in Him before the world began, for we have been chosen in Christ before the foundation of world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love ; and in order that we should live that holy life, God made Christ unto us Wisdom, Righteousness, Sanctification and Redemption, that all our glorying should be in the Lord, for we have nothing that we have not received of the Lord, for God is father of all our mercies and the giver of every good and perfect gift, and we are forbidden to call any other father on earth, or seek comfort or protection from any other source. If we lack wisdom, we should ask of God for he giveth to his children according as they have received of the Father of Lights, with whom there is no variability nor shadow of turning, for if He spared not His own son but delivered him up for us, how shall he not with him give us all things. Now we see our great benefactor which will not leave us nor forsake us. We as his family of Heaven-born children should try to glorify Him in our body and spirit which are His, by walking in all his ordinances and commandments, and by so doing keep the unity of the spirit in the bonds of peace, thereby serve Him acceptable with reverence and Godly fear. We should admonish to love, and good works, which is the fruit of our faith, which is a manifestation of our gracious state. He has given his Word and his Spirit, which is to guide and govern our action in this world, a rule by which we are to walk in the house of the Lord, in our doctrine and in our discipline, and toward one another, for we are members one of

another; one member cannot suffer without all suffer, therefore, we should strive for the peace and harmony of our brethren, that no brother should cast stumbling blocks in the way of his brother, but should at all times be ready to assist him in any way that would be for his good and God's glory, and if a brother should be overtaken in a fault, we should try to restore such a one in the spirit of meakness, considering ourselves lest we be tempted if a brother trespass against us, we should go to our brother in the spirit of meakness and love and tell him his faults in a brotherly spirit, and try to gain our brother; we should not publish his acts to the world giving our enemies the advantage of us, but it should be between ourselves, and in thus acting, we often save our brother from error and falling into temptation and the snare of the devil. We should try to live in peace and in love one with another that satan get not the advantage over us to cause strife and confusion, and thereby destroy our peace and comfort. Dear Brethren, faithfulness becomes the house-hold of God; that we should try to be faithful in all things, we should try to adorn the doctrine of our Lord Jesus Christ in every thing that belongs to the house-hold of faith. That fellowship and love may abound, that our love may appear to all that all may see that we are the children of God, because we have love one for another. And finally Brethren, be of one mind, live in peace, and the God of love and peace shall be with you all.

STATEMENT OF THE CHURCHES.

	CHURCHES.	COUNTIES.	POST OFFICE.	NAMES OF DELEGATES. Ministers in Small Capitals. Licentiates in Italics.	Baptised	Rec'd by letter	Rec'd on Conf	Restored	Dis. by Letter	Excluded	Deceased	Total Number	Sunday Meet.	Yearly Meet.	Money for Minutes.	Cor. Fund.	Pro rata share of Minutes	
1st DISTRICT	Antioch.....	Stewart.....	Lumpkin,.....	J. Irwin, J. C. Chambliss,.....	3				2			37	4	.....	2 00	5 00	48
	Harmony,.....	Stewart.....	Preston.....	J. H. Carter, J. Turner,.....							2	39	4	.....	3 00	3 00	58
	Slaughter Creek..	Stewart.....	Green Hill,.....	S. Person, J. W. Lowe,.....					1			26	2	.....	2 00	5 00	53
	Poplar Springs..	Webster.....	Preston,.....	J. H. Stephens,.....	1					1		12	13	1	1 00	2 00	33
	Mount Olive.....	Chattahoochie.	Cusseta,.....	<i>H. Bussey, J. Lawson,</i>					3	1		51	1	Aug.	2 00	4 00	68	
	New Bethel,.....	Marion,.....	Pineville,.....	N. M. Nickelson, D. J. Dawsey,.....	1		1		5	1		31	3	July	2 00	3 00	48	
	Mount Pisgah....	Marion,.....	Buena Vista..	J. M. WOODALL, C. Hightnote,.....					2			10	4	.....	1 00	1 00	23
	Beulah,.....	Terrell.....	Dawson,.....	J. DAVIS E. BLACKSHEAR,.....	4	2			3	1		33	1	.....	2 00	3 00	48
	Chickasawhatchie,	Terrell,.....	Dawson,.....	J. E. Bozeman, T. A. McWilliams,.....	2	1				1	1	26	1	May	2 50	3 50	41	
	Turkey Creek,...	Webster.....	Weston.....	E. NOWELL, <i>W. O. Shirling,</i>	3	3						28	3	July	3 00	5 00	30	
	Macedonia,.....	Lee,.....	Dawson,.....	M. Marshall,.....	2	5			1			20	4	J'ne	1 50	2 50	29	
	Liberty,.....	Sumter,.....	Smithville....	J. R. Webb,.....	2	2					1	16	3	July	2 00	1 00	29	
	Providence,.....	Sumter,.....	Americus,.....	T. K. PURSELEY, J. W. Coldwell,.....	1	2			2	1	1	29	2	.....	2 50	5 00	44
	Harmony,.....	Sumter,.....	Americus,.....	R. A. Dodson, J. Majers,.....		3			3	2	1	23	4	Aug	2 00	2 00	39	
	Antioch.....	C'jay,.....	Fort Gains,...	W. HUBBARD, W. Richardson,.....		2			1	1	1	19	4	July	2 00	.....	33
Liberty Hill,....	Early,.....	Blakely,.....	Z. Evans, S. E. Davis,.....								12	1	J'ne	50	3 50	24		
Marshall.....	Calhoun,.....	Whitney.....	<i>J. A. Coleman, G. Prichit,</i>	2		2		1			56	3	J'ne	3 50	8 00	68		
Heephziba,.....	Randolph,.....	Cuthbert,.....	A. BELCHER, W. Hearsay,.....					1		1	15	4	July	1 50	1 50	32		
Walnut Grove....	Randolph,.....	Cuthbert,.....	J. EVERETT,.....	2	1					1	9	2	July	1 25	1 00	20		
Mount Mariah...	Randolph,.....	Cuthbert,.....	T. Peake,.....								11	2	.....	1 50	2 00	23	
Pataula.....	Quitmau,.....	Georgetown...	H. J. Bland, J. Hathcock,.....							2	20	3	July	2 00	3 00	38		

Received for Cor. Fund, \$64 00 ; Minutes—from churches \$49 20. Paid Printer \$25 00. Clerk allowed \$25 00.

