

PRIMITIVE BAPTIST  
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# MINUTES

—OF THE—

SEVENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION

—OF THE—

## OCHLOCKNEE ASSOCIATION,

Of Regular Primitive Baptists held with the Church at

HARMONY, BROOKS COUNTY, GEORGIA,

October 26, 27, 28, 1901.

**Officers:**

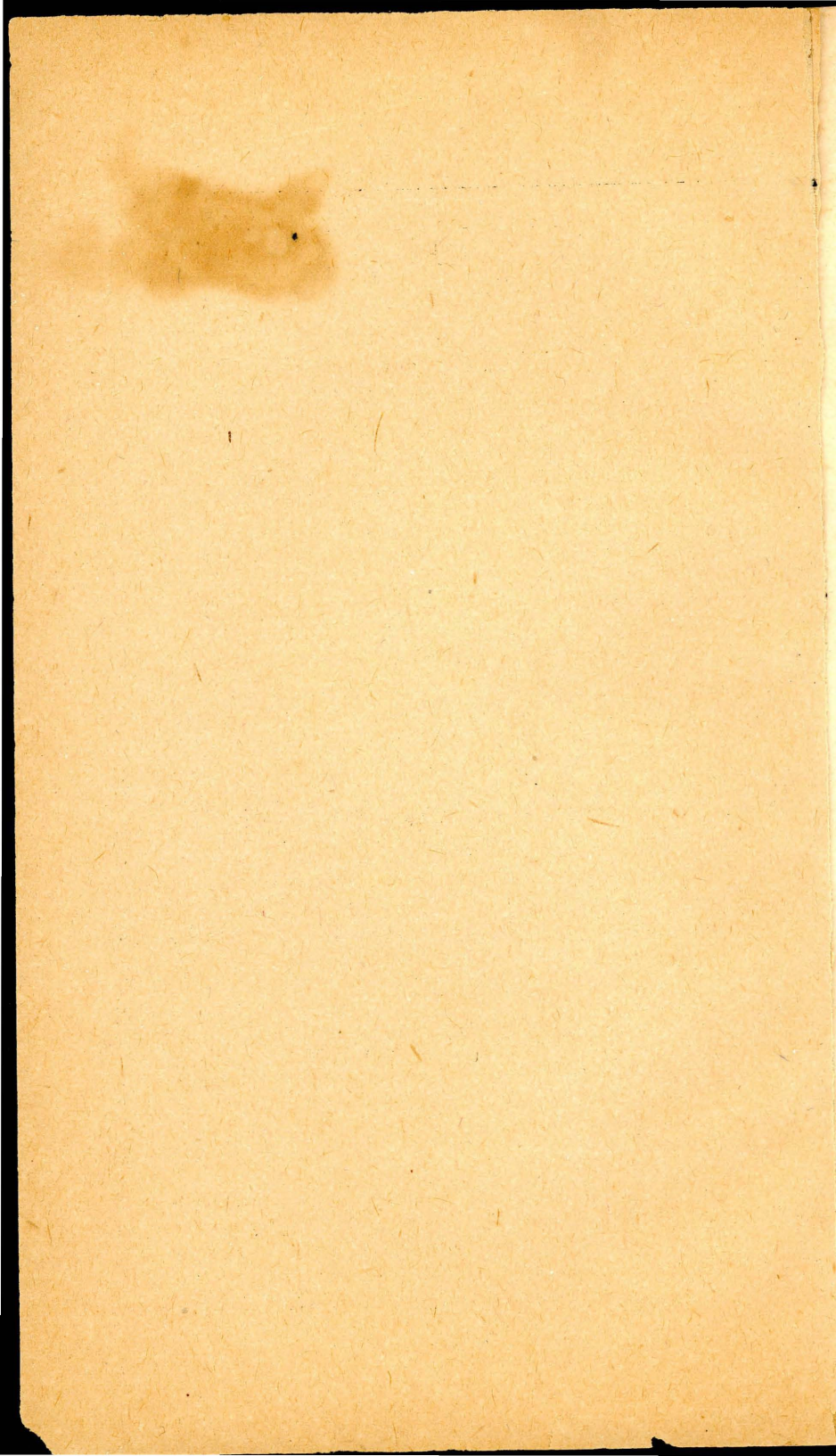
ELDER J. F. McCANN

MODERATOR.

E. R. RHODEN

CLERK.

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MILLEDGEVILLE, GEORGIA



## Proceedings of the Ochlocknees Association.

The seventy-fifth session of the Ochlocknee Primitive Baptist Association, Convened with Harmony church, Brooks county Ga., October 26th, 27th and 28th, 1901.

The introductory sermon was delivered by Elder T. W. Stallings from the Union Association. His text was the 6th verse of the 19th chapter of Revelations.

Prayer by Elder T. C. Gardner from the Pulaski Association.

1st. Read letters from fourteen churches and minuted their state.

2nd. Elected Elder J. F. McCann, Moderator; and E. R. Rhoden Clerk.

3rd. Adopted last year's minutes as our course of business.

4th. Read the Decorum.

5th. Invited visiting brethren in the ministry of our faith and order to seats with us.

6th. Called for petitionary letters.

7th. Appointed committees as follows: On preaching and finance, brethren G. F. Newton, R. D. Turner, Boaz Collier, Solomon Hires, J. D. Johnson, with messengers of this church; on business, Solomon Hires, R. D. Turner, J. O. J. Lewis, with moderator and clerk; on deceased ministers J. E. Sheffield and J. M. Renfroe.

8th. Called for correspondence and received from the Union Association as visitors, Elders T. W. Stallings, J. A. Chitty and Bryant Osteen; from Sanpedro Association, letter and messengers J. E. Blanton and W. S. Johnson; from Flint River Association as visitors, Elder W. H. Goodwin and Joseph Chason.

9th. Called for petitionary correspondence.

10th. Appointed J. E. Sheffield to write corresponding letter. Then, on motion, adjourned until Monday morning. Prayer by Elder W. H. Godwin.

Colquitt county, Ga., nine miles west of Moultrie, when and where we hope to meet you again.

### Circular Letter.

Dear and much beloved brethren in the Lord, I will call your attention to the words of the apostle recorded by James second chapter 26 verse: 'For as the body without the spirit is dead so faith without works is dead.' Also the apostle here was delineating the true outward character of the church of Christ, proper; he knew what he wrote to be true, by actual personal experience. He lived in a day when people were just as they are now. When, as now, some of them made professions of the religion of our Lord Jesus Christ without any visible manifestations of the faith of the same. He had not forgotten what his Lord and Master had said unto him and the other apostles twenty seven years anterior to this writing to the twelve tribes which were scattered abroad: Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you and ordained you that you should go and bring forth fruit and that your fruit should remain, for as the body without the spirit is dead, inactive, unconscious, without will, it is not only a conclusion but an absolute fact to the minds of all christians, that the first man, Adam, when formed of the dust of the ground, before the breath of life was breathed into his nostrills was a helpless, inanimate lump of dust, but after the implantation of the breath of life came animation, the senses of intelligence with all other natural endowments which would make him amendable or answerable to his maker for all his doings, whether they be good or evil. Without this breath their would have been no spirit of life, no subject of God's law, because inanimate; but now, this living man, Adam, body and life is a subject of law, God's law, and he violates or breaks it; you know the balance—Sentenced to death together with all his posterity, aliens from God and enemies to him and all righteousness. But the unspeakable love of God and the purpose and grace which was given his people in the blessed Son of God before the world began, secured their salvation according to the covenant which was ordered in all things and so while we were sinners Christ died for the ungodly, gave his dear life a ransom for many, and then gives us his life, eternal life, the earnest of our inheritance, the own dear life of our risen Lord, his life, our life, the Spirit of Christ dwelling in our mortal bodies. Brethren is this the case? Does indeed and in truth the spirit, the life of our dear Lord dwell in us; if so

then we are amenable to this great King of kings and Lord of Lords for all our actions whether they be good or evil and we being not our own, but bought with such a price—our Lord's precious blood—hence he has ordained that we should bring forth fruits of this life which was so freely and lovingly given to us by him. So dear brethen as we have made profession of our faith in him, the truthfulness of this profession is to be manifested by fruits of this faith, which is all goodness and meekness, and brotherly love, and christian forbearance etc., for without showing forth the fruits of this faith, we prove, according to the text, that this faith which we profess is not the faith the gift of God to all his people, but a dead faith being alone.

May God bless his dear people and constrain them by the love of Christ to love and good works.

Farewell in love.

John M. Renfroe.

### Address of Ministers.

A. P. Tucker, Moultrie, Ga.; M. J. Alderman, Hempstead, Ga.; D. N. Williams, Moultrie, Ga.; J. F. McCann, Barwick, Ga. Licentiates: J. N. Norman, Moultrie Ga.; J. M. Renfroe, Dixie, Ga.; Hugh Connell, Monticello, Fla.

### Rules of Decorum.

1st. This Association shall open and close with prayer.

2nd. The members who are regularly chosen by the churches in our Union shall compose the Ochlocknee Primitive Baptist Association, two-thirds of which form a decorum.

3rd. Members thus chosen shall produce letters from their respective churches certifying their appointment, together with their number in fellowship, those received by experience, and baptism, and otherwise, dismissed, excommunicated, restored and dead since our last Association.

4th. This Association shall have no power to lord it over God's heritage, nor infringe on the internal rights of any church.

5th. This Association shall have a Moderator and Clerk, who shall be chosen of the members present.

6th. It shall be the duty of the Moderator to preserve order, explain and put questions, he shall have the same right of speech as another member, provided the chair shall be filled, but shall not vote except the body be equally divided.

7th. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep a fair record of the proceedings of the Association, and the minutes taken shall be read and amended, if necessary, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the Association rises. The Clerk shall also keep a file of the minutes to be presented at each Association, and shall take charge of the Association fund, and pay out any sum on the order of the Association, and shall be accountable for all money deposited in the hands of the Association.

8th. Any church applying by letter and delegates for admittance, which upon examination, is found orthodox and orderly, shall be received by the Association and manifested by the Moderator giving the right hand of fellowship to its delegates.

9th. Every church shall have a right to send two delegates to the Association and no more.

10th. Every motion made and seconded shall claim the action of the Association, except withdrawn by the person who made it, with the consent of the Association.

11th. Every person who speaks must rise from his seat and address the Moderator, and shall not be interrupted when speaking except when he departs from the subject.

12th. No person shall speak more than three times on the same subject without leave of the Association.

13th. There shall be no talking or whispering in time of public speech, nor reflections cast on the speaker.

14th. Whenever a case is decided by a vote, there shall be no more debate on the subject.

15th. No person shall absent himself from the Association without leave from the Moderator.

16th. This Association is in favor of preaching the gospel, the circulation of the scriptures and the advantages of education and recommends temperance and morality in general, but to her members in particular; notwithstanding she is opposed to all modern institutions of men, such as Missionary, Bible tract and Sunday-School Union Societies, together with Baptist State conventions and Theological Schools and such like, because their connection with the church of God is unauthorized by the Scriptures, as such we cannot fellowship them, or admit to our church priviledges any person who is therewith connected in anywise, believing all such to be speculative in their nature and fruitful sources for corrupting the church. In relation to Free Masonry, we recommend to our brethren who may already be attached to that fraternity

to immediately withdraw therefrom; and when brethren leave the church and join that fraternity, they are not such as follow after the things that make for peace and things where-with one may edify another. Rom. 14-19. And as such, unless they manifest a suitable repentance, and immediately withdraw therefrom, and make suitable acknowledgements, shall be rejected from the fellowship of the church.

17th. We recommend to the churches composing this body to receive members who went off with the Missionary and all other Baptists at the time of their separation from us, provided they bring satisfactory evidence of a legal baptism with a suitable confession of faith, and not otherwise in disorder, and not to receive any who have been baptized by them since said separation only by experience and baptism.

18th. This Association holds the right that if the union be broken between any of the churches and the breach cannot be healed, to withdraw from them that may be deemed unsound in faith or immoral in practice until they be removed.

19th. To invite visiting brethren from sister Associations and ministers of our faith and order, to seats with us.

20th. To keep a correspondence with other Associations of the same faith and order, so that a chain of communication may be preserved throughout the denomination.

21st. If any member shall break the rules of this decorum, he shall be reproved by the Moderator.

22d. The rules shall be read at every Association, prior to entering on business.

23rd. The rules of this Decorum may be altered or amended at any time, by a majority of three fourths of the Association.

ELDER J. F. McCANN, MODERATOR.  
E. R. RHODEN, CLERK.

### Articles of Faith.

1st. We believe in one only true and living God, and that there are three in the Godhead—the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost.

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

3rd. We believe in the doctrine of eternal and particular election.

4th. We believe in the doctrine of original sin.

5th. We believe in man's impotency to recover himself from the state he is in by nature, of his own free will and ability.

6th. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God, only by the imputed righteousness of Christ.

7th. We believe that God's elect shall be called, regenerated and sanctified by the Holy Ghost.

8th. We believe that the saints shall persevere in grace and not finally fall away.

9th. We believe that baptism and the Lord's supper and washing the saints feet are ordinances of Jesus Christ, and that true believers and the only subjects of these ordinances, and that the only true baptism is by immersion.

10th. We believe that the punishment of the wicked will be everlasting, and the joys of the righteous shall be eternal.

11th. 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 the presbytery.

12th. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and a general judgement.

ELDER J. F. McCANN, MODERATOR.

E. R. RHODEN, CLERK.



## STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES.	COUNTY AND STATE.	POST OFFICE.	NAMES OF MESSENGERS.	Rec'd		Restored.	Dis'd by Letter.	Excluded	Deceased.	Total Number.	Contributions.	Time of Yearly Meeting	
				By Letter.	By Ex. and Bah.								
Little Flock....	Thomas, Ga..	Monticello, Fla	J. F. Sheffield, J. T. Connell	0	1	0	0	1	0	2	18	\$1 50	3rd July.
Harmony .....	Brooks, Ga..	Barwick, Ga...	J. T. McCann, F. M. Renfroe	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	41	2 50	4th August.
Bethlehem .....	Brooks, Ga..	Quitman, Ga....	J. D. Johnson, L. J. Renfroe	0	4	1	0	1	1	1	36	2 00	2d October.
Mt. Zion .....	Thomas, Ga..	Chastain, Ga....	B. E. Chastain, W. A. Carter	0	0	0	0	1	4	0	35	1 50	.....
Pleasant Grove.	Colquitt, Ga..	Moultrie, Ga....	G. F. Newton, J. S. Norman	1	0	0	0	2	2	0	87	4 00	2d September.
Mt. Carmel...	Thomas, Ga..	Thomasville, Ga	S. D. Chastain, J. O. J. Lewis	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	17	1 50	.....
Live Oak.....	Colquitt, Ga.	Moultrie, Ga...	D. N. Williams, M. W. Clark	0	0	6	0	0	0	1	40	2 50	1st August,
Bethel .....	Brooks, Ga..	Talokas, Ga....	H Alderman, W. C. Singleton	0	5	0	0	0	1	0	34	2 00	1st September,
Naomi .....	Brooks, Ga..	Barney, Ga.....	R. D. Turner, O. W. Peters	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17	1 50	4th July.
Bethsadia . . .	Colquitt, Ga.	Moultrie, Ga,..	A. P. Tucker, I. E. Tucker	0	6	0	1	0	5	4	93	3 50	3d September.
Mt. Pisgah.....	Thomas, Ga..	Ochlocknee, Ga.	Boaz Collier, W. E. Chastain	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	24	1 50	.....
Sardis.....	Colquitt, Ga.	Hemstead. Ga.	S. Hires, M. J. Alderman	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	53	3 70	4th September
Pleasant Hill....	Colquitt, Ga.	Moultrie, Ga....	M. M. Blanton, E. R. Rhoden	0	4	0	0	0	1	0	13	1 50	4th June.
Sharon.....	Madison, Fla.	Greenville, Fla.	J. M. Rufus, J. A. Rogers.	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	17	1 50	.....

