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MINUTES

OF THE

FIFTIETH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

TOWALIGA ASSOCIATION

—OF—

PRIMITIVE BAPTISTS,

HELD WITH THE

Church at Ozias, Henry County, Ga.

September 2nd and 3rd, 1888.

—:O.—

MILNER, GA:
TOWALIGA MESSENGER PRINT.
1888.

LIBRARY
NEW ORLEANS BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
NEW ORLEANS, LA.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Read letters and enroll messengers' names.
2. Elect Moderator and Clerk.
3. Call for petitionary letters.
4. Invite visiting brethren to seats.
5. Call for correspondence.
6. Appoint a committee to arrange service.
7. Appoint a committee on deceased members.
8. Appoint some brother to write corresponding letter.
9. Call the roll and read the Decorum.
10. Appoint correspondents.
11. Appoint union meetings.
12. Appoint time and place for next Association.
13. Appoint some brother to preach next Introductory Sermon.
14. Appoint some brother to write circular letter.
15. Call for circular letters.
16. Call for corresponding letter.
17. Call for contributions. Say how many minutes shall be printed; fix clerk's compensation.
18. Call for miscellaneous business.
19. Read minutes and adjourn.

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PROCEEDINGS.

OZLAS CHURCH, HENRY Co., Ga.,

Owing to incessant rains on Saturday, September 1, 1888, the Towaliga Association, did not organize.

Sunday, September 2, 1888.

Preaching by the dear brethren as follows:—A. M. Elder J. M. Stewart, of Little River Association, followed by Elder W. J. McCommick, of Five Mile Association, Ala. P. M. Elder J. M. Thomas, of Blue Ridge Association, followed by Elder S. J. Blackwell, of Little River Association.

Monday, September 3, 1888.

Preaching as follows: A. M. Elder W. F. Rogers followed by Elder Jno. A. Wright. P. M. Elder W. B. Carr followed by Elder W. J. Oxford.

MINUTES.

MONDAY, 8:00 A. M., September 3, 1888.

Messengers from the various churches composing the Towaliga Association of Primitive Baptist, assembled in the Ozias Church-house. Singing and prayer by Elder S. J. Blackwell.

Read letters from 15 churches composing the association and recorded Messengers' names.

1. By nomination and election, chose Elder I. L. Gunter, Moderator, and W. T. Godard Clerk.

2. Received into our Union. Mount Nebo church of Glascock County, and Little Flock, of Fayette Co., Ga.

3. Received correspondents from Little River, Elders, J. M. Stewart and S. J. Blackwell and brethren W. J. Donalson, E. S. Coker, W. C. Anderson, Jno. Kemp and I. H. Wilson; from Blue Ridge, Elder J. M. Thomas.

4. Appointed a committee on divine service to wit, W. P. Person, J. M. Stanley, J. L. Hays with the Messengers of Ozias Church.

5. Appointed T. G. Preston to write corresponding letter.

6. Appointed the clerk to condense a report on deceased members, by the reports in the respective letters.

7. Called the roll, and on motion omitted the reading of Decorum for present session.

8. Appointed correspondents. To Little River, Elders I. L. Gunter and W. J. Oxford, and brethren, A. J. Brown, J. M. Stanley, Dr. Jno. F. Jackson, N. Willingham and W. G. Burk.

To Blue Ridge, Elders Gunter, Carr and Godard and brother J. M. Stanley.

9. Appointed Union meetings for 1st district at Friendship, Friday before and embracing 2nd Sunday in July, 1889, for 2nd district at Little Flock, Friday before and embracing 4th Sunday in July, 1889.

10. Appointed next session of this body with Mount Olive Church, Baldwin Co., Ga., 6 miles east of Millageville, on Saturday before 1st Sunday in September, 1889.

11. Appointed Elder W. T. Godard to preach next introductory sermon and Elder I. L. Gunter in case of failure.

12. Appointed brother Jno. F. Jackson to write next circular letter.

13. Called for contributions and received for Minutes \$29.50 for Visiting Ministers \$47.95.

14. Ordered 1,000 copies of these Minutes printed and distributed by the clerk; fixed clerk's compensation at balance of minutes fund after paying for printing and distributing the minutes.

15. Called for corresponding letter which was read by brother T. G. Preston, was received and adopted.

16. On motion by brother W. P. Harden, Resolved: That this body tender thanks to Ozias Church and friends of this community for their hospitality and kindness so abundantly made and lavished upon this body and visitors during this session.

17. Read and adopted minutes and adjourned to meet at Mt. Olives on Saturday, before 1st Sunday in September, 1889.

Singing and prayer by brother Moderator.

I. L. GUNTER, Moderator.

W. T. GODARD, Clerk.

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CORRESPONDING LETTER.

Towaliga Association, to her Sister Associations with whom she corresponds.

DEAR BRETHREN:—By a continuance of God's blessings upon us we have been suffered to hold the fiftieth annual session of the Towaliga Association in peace, love and harmony. We rejoiced at the presence, and through the words spoken unto us by your Messengers. As an evidence of our appreciation and a desire of a continuance of your correspondence, we have appointed of our body the dear Elders and brethren whose names are set forth in the body of these minutes to visit and labor with you in your next session.

The fifty-first session of this body is appointed to be held with Mt. Olive Church, Baldwin county, Ga., six miles east of Milledgeville, on Saturday before first Sunday in September, 1889. When and where we desire to meet many of your desirable correspondents.

Yours in Love and fellowship.

IRA L. GUNTER, Moderator.

W. T. GODARD, Clerk.

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IN MEMORIAM.

Sacred to the memory of our deceased brothers and sisters who have died during the last associational year.

FOREST. DEMOON JOHN SANLEY, age 74 years; 48 years a Primitive Baptist. JERRY MCCLENDON, 15 years a Primitive Baptist. QUINCY CATES, 8 years a member.

MOUNT OLIVES. E. L. MORAN, aged 62 years; 42 years a Primitive Baptist; baptised by Elder Michael Leonard. MARY J. BLIZZARD, member with us 3 years; baptised by Elder W. J. Oxford.

BERSHEBA. CATHERINE BANKSTON, 85 years old; 41 years a member of this church, baptised by Elder William Mosely.

SANDY CREEK. MARY MAPLES, 20 years member with us. ELIZ-

ABETH THAXTON, age 75 years; 60 years a Baptist. SALLIE GREEN, 12 years a member with us.

LIBERTY. NANCY OXFORD, widow of Elder T. J. Oxford founder of this church, aged 74 years; 42 years a member with us. TAMZY C. WISE, aged 66 years; 48 years a Primitive Baptist.

LEBANON. ELIZABETH AKIN, age 83 years; member with us 36 years. ELIZABETH MIDDLEBROOKS, member with us 35 years. Both baptised by Elder A. Cleveland. LUCINDA SMITH, aged 63 years; a Primitive Baptist 36 years; baptised by Elder Wm. Diskuke.

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CIRCULAR LETTER.

DEAR AND BELOVED BRETHREN:

Having at the last session agreed to return to the custom of addressing you by circular letter, we send you this our epistle of love in conformity to that agreement; praying that God of His infinite love and mercy may bless it to our mutual good and His glory.

The Apostle John (1st. John 1:3) says, "That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us, and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His son Jesus Christ." Thus presenting to us the great and soul comforting doctrine of Christian fellowship for our contemplation and encouragement. Suffer us then *dear brethren*, in a brief way to call your attention to this sublime subject.

The word fellowship as used in the Scriptures seems to convey the idea of equality and oneness in the Kingdom of Grace, and in our relation to God, and to each other as His children: that is, we are fellows or equals in all that pertains to our salvation, by the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. And this fellowship that we have for each other as saints is predicated upon the fact of our fellowship with the Father and with His son Jesus Christ, for without this, true fellowship with each other is impossible. To have fellowship with the Father and with His son Jesus Christ, we must be embraced in the Covenant of Grace; in the electing love of God. Redeemed by the blood of Christ, begotten and born of the Holy Spirit, have Christ revealed in us the hope of glory, be delivered from the power of darkness, and translated into the kingdom of His dear Son, blessed with the gift of eternal life and made heirs of God and joint heirs with Jesus Christ. What a glorious consummation! What blessed relation! What love and gratitude should fill our souls and animate our hearts toward God when contemplating Him as our Father and toward the Lord Jesus Christ, when viewing Him as our Redeemer, Savior and older brother. But our fellowship for each other is made manifest and brought into active operation by a declaration of "that which we have seen and heard in our experience of what is thus effected in us in this great work of grace. How ready then we should be to give the reason of the hope that is within us to every one that asketh with meekness and fear, and how careful we should

be to maintain, perpetuate and keep in active exercise our fellowship for and with each other, by walking as the children of light and of the day.

What tenderness, what sympathy, what loving-kindness and brotherly love should flow out to each other, exhibiting in all our conduct and conversation our allegiance to Christ, and our love to one another, ever striving to live together in peace and love, working, suffering, sorrowing and rejoicing together here on earth, hoping finally to dwell together Heaven.

Let us constantly watch and pray dear brethren that we enter not into temptation; for, if watchfulness and prayer are neglected, we stand in great danger of being led astray by the seductive influences of Satan, the world and the flesh, by which oftentimes false notions, errors, false constructions and improper conduct is brought in to the injury of the fellowship of God's dear children. Dogmatism and Pharisaical obstinacy, usurps the place of charity and brotherly forbearance; a fleshly striving for our own peculiar notions of orthodoxy and order is substituted in the place of humble, earnest and loving advocacy of the truth as in Jesus, to the destruction of peace, and to the bringing in of jealousies, envies, strife, contentions and every evil work, the foibles, weaknesses and wrong opinions of brethren are exaggerated, a harsh, critical and intolerant spirit manifested—and ultimately unscriptural alienation and division wrought; but let us thank God and rejoice that none of these things seem to be manifest among us at present, and let us constantly endeavor to keep the unity of the spirit (not of exact sentiment) in the bonds of peace, and as companions in our journey through this vale of tears, continually meeting with dangers, trials and distresses that tries our faith and patience.

Let us be patient one toward another, bearing each other's burdens and so fulfilling the law of Christ, as children of the same Father, subjects of the same redemption, objects of the same grace, members of the same brotherhood, inheritors of the same kingdom, cemented together by the blood of the same Jesus, heirs of the same glory having the same experience and traveling the same road, subject to the same weaknesses, trials temptations and warfare. How sweet should be our association together, how endearing our fellowship one for another, and how perfectly agreed should we all be in the one great object of our calling which is to live for each other's good and God's glory.

Finally brethren let us constantly and earnestly pray that our present state of love and fellowship with each other and with the Father, as we trust, and with His son Jesus Christ may ever be maintained that no apple of discord to mar or destroy our peace may ever be introduced among us, that our stakes as a body may be strengthened and our cords lengthened, that we may ever stand fast in the liberty wherewith Christ has made us free, as witnesses for the truth as in Jesus.

I. L. GUNTER, Moderator.

W. T. GODARD, Clerk.

SCALE OF THE CHURCHES.

Number.	CHURCHES.	COUNTIES.	POST OFFICES.	MESSENGER'S NAMES.	Baptised	Rec'd on Con- fes'n of Faith	Restored.	Excluded.	Dismiss'd by Letter.	Dead.	Total.	Minute Fund	Minister's Fund.	Time of Meeting	PASTORS.
1	Ozias.....	Henry.....	White House..	I. L. Guater, B. W. Moseley, N. Willingham.....	6	5				1	61	\$ 2 00	\$ 3 00	3	Gunter.
2	Bethel.....	Butts.....	Jackson.....	By Letter.....						8	50		50	1	No supply
3	Nun & Wheeler...	Wilkinson...	Bloodworth...	W. B. Carr, W. M. Hicks.....	4					16	2 25	2 00		4	Carr.
4	Forest.....	Clayton.....	Astor.....	J. M. Stanley, J. F. Jackson...	8	2	1		2	3	74	3 00	3 75	2	Godard.
5	Flat Rock.....	Pike.....	Zebulon.....	J. A. Wright, W. P. Harden, B. F. Arrington.....					2	41	2 00	4 00		2	Gunter & Wright.
6	Mt. Olive.....	Baldwin.....	Milledgeville..	A. J. Brown.....	5					2	39	2 00	1 50	1	Carr.
7	Bersheba.....	Henry.....	Locust Grove..	C. A. Barron, M. L. Harris, G. W. Welch.....	6				1	1	69	2 50	5 05	4	Gunter.
8	Sandy Creek.....	Butts.....	Flovilla.....	T. G. Preston.....	2					3	43	2 00	3 00	3	Godard.
9	Friendship.....	Wilkinson...	Commissi-ner	W. F. Rogers, J. T. Bran- an, W. M. Grier.....	4					2	27	2 00	3 00	2	Rogers.
10	Mt. Moriah.....	Newton.....	Ewell.....	J. L. Hays, T. Y. Gregory, W. S. Kirkpatrick.....	1					14	1 25	2 00		2	Oxford.
11	Liberty.....	Pike.....	Milner.....	W. T. Godard, E. C. Akin, Jr	1				4	2	44	1 50	1 15	4	Godard
12	Concord.....	Jasper.....	Winfred.....	W. J. Oxford, W. P. Person, W. R. Jones.....						2	87	2 50	10 00	4	Oxford.
13	Lebanon.....	Henry.....	Hampton.....	A. Payn.....					1	3	43	1 50	5 00	1	Oxford.
14	Euphrates.....	Glasscock...	Mitchel.....	By Letter.....	14				15	2	31	1 50	1 50	3	Carr.
15	Hebron.....	Clayton.....	Jonesboro.....	W. M. Gunter, W. G. Burk...						26	1 00	2 00		1	Gunter.
16	Beulah.....	Spalding.....	Patillo.....	No male member.....						13				2	No supply.
17	Mt. Pisgah.....	Upson.....	Tabler.....	Not represented.....						32				3	Oxford.
18	Mt. Nebo.....	Glasscock...	Mitchel.....	J. F. Walden.....						21	1 00			2	Carr.
19	Little Flock.....	Fayette.....	Fayetteville...	J. V. Davis, P. Davis.....	1					1	8	1 00	50	4	Wright.
					50	4	5	1	25	22	627	\$29 50	\$47 95		

THE
TOWALIGA MESSENGER,

Devoted To The

Original Principles

Of

PRIMITIVE BAPTISTS'

Faith and Practice.

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Published Monthly At

\$1.00 per Year in Advance,

By

Elder W. T. Godard,

MILNER,

GEORGIA.