

1700 American Baptist Historical Society
J. J. McAuliffe
8 Feb 1942

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MINUTES

— OF THE —

FIFTY-THIRD ANNUAL SESSION



ALAPAHA RIVER

* Primitive Baptist *

ASSOCIATION,

— HELD WITH —

Mt. Pleasant Church, Ware County, Georgia,

November 1st to 3rd Inclusive, 1895.

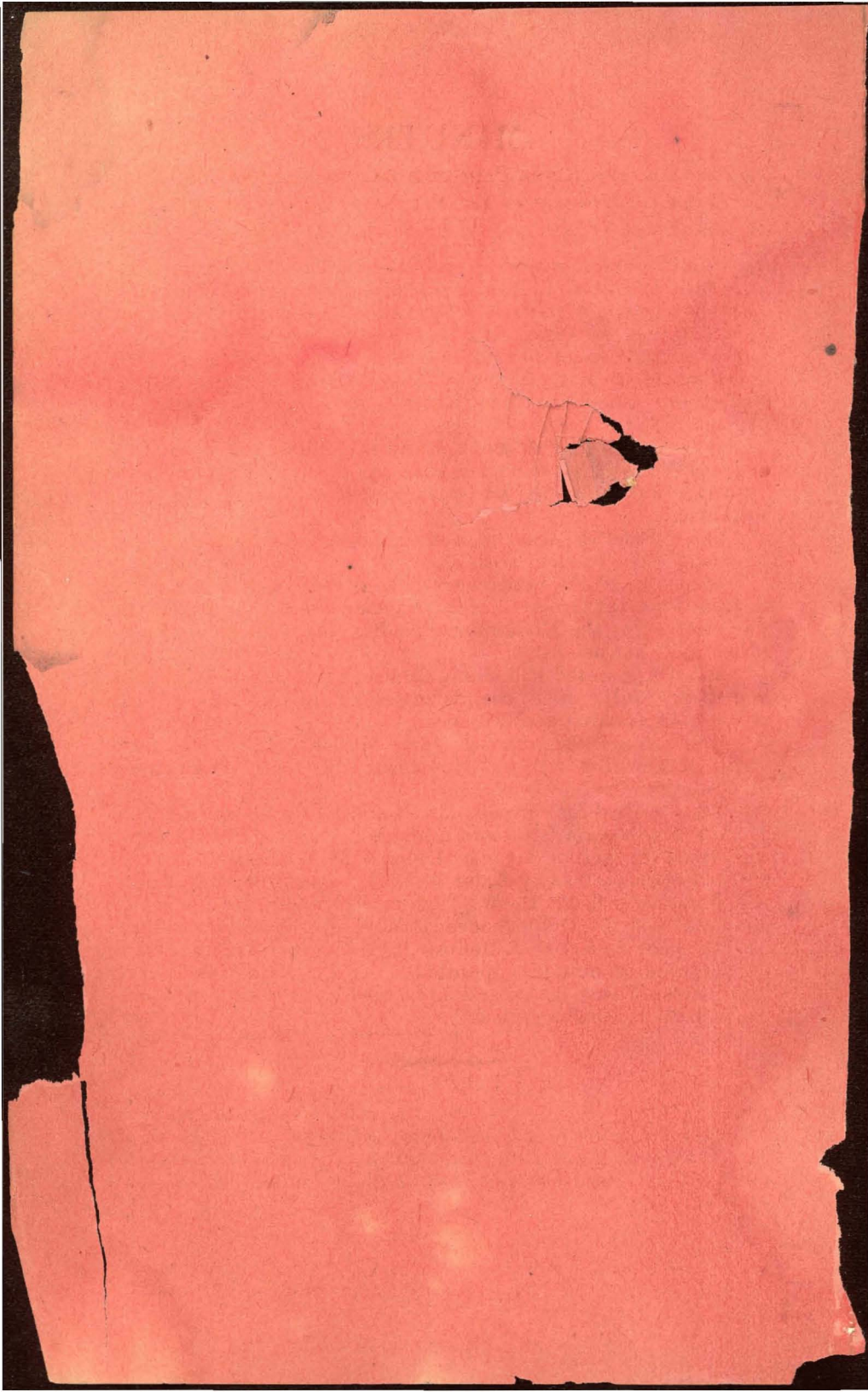
OFFICERS.

ELDER JAS. A. THORNTON, - - - - - Moderator.
R. G. O'BERRY, - - - - - Clerk.

VALDOSTA, GA.:
PILGRIM'S BANNER PRINT,
1895.



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MINUTES

OF THE ALAPAHA RIVER PRIMITIVE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION HELD
WITH THE CHURCH AT MT. PLEASANT, WARE COUNTY, GEOR-
GIA, FROM NOVEMBER THE 1ST TO THE 3RD 1895.

The introductory sermon was preached by Elder D. W. Taylor, of the Primitive Pulaski Association from 1st Corrinthians, 5th chapter and 48th verse, viz: As is the earthy such are they also that are earthy etc.

After a recess of 25 minutes the delegates assembled in the house where the Association was called to order by the former Moderator. After prayer by Elder R. H. Barwick, the body proceeded as follows:

1st. Read letters from 12 churches. Statement from one and enrolled delegates names, and on motion Elder Jas. A. Thornton was re-elected Moderator and R. G. Oberry, Clerk, by acclamation.

2nd. Read the decorum and in invited ministers of our faith and order to seats with us.

3rd. Called for petitionary letters, there was one handed in from Pleasant Grove Church, Appling county, Georgia, and was received by the Moderator extending the right hand of fellowships to her delegates.

4th. Appointed Eld. John Ellis and brethren J. S. Thomas and J. B. Mullis with the delegates of this church, a committee on Preaching and Finance.

5th. Appointed brethren David McGaully, S. L. Youmans and J. R. Dowling with the Moderator and Clerk a committee on Business

6th. Called for correspondence and received from the New Beulah Association letter and minutes by brother F. M. Loard; also from the Indian River by Elder Z. H. Bennett; also from the Lower Canoochee by Elder J. Cribb; also from the Primitive Pulaski by Elder D. W. Taylor; also received Elder R. H. Barwick from the Ochockonee; brother L. D. Taylor of the Pulaski and brother D. J. Jeffords of the Union Associations as visitors, and on motion appointed Elder J. T. Minshew to write the Corresponding Letter and adjourned until to-morrow morning at half past eight o'clock.

Saturday November, 2nd.

Met according to adjournment. After prayer by Elder R. H. Barwick, read one letter that failed to reach us yesterday, called the role and renewed invitations to ministers to seats with us.

7th. Called for further correspondence and received from the Union Association minutes by Elder Jas. A. Osteen.

8th. Called for report of committee on business to wit:

We your Committee, have examined correspondence and find nothing objectionable in them and recommend the same order of business as appears in our last years minutes.

9th. Called for report of committee on Preaching and Finance to wit:

We your Committee beg leave to make the following report: We have received \$24.00 contribution and recommend the printing of 650 copies of our minutes this year 450 for the use of the churches; the balance for correspondence, the Clerk to pay for the same and have the balance of the funds for his services after paying all expenses.

10th. Called for marked letters and took up two, and agreed to hold the next session of this Association with the church at Elim, Coffee county, Georgia, two miles from Sessoms on the Waycross Air Line Rail Road, Friday before the 1st Sunday in November 1896.

11th. Appointed correspondence to sister Associations as follows: To the Indian River to meet with Antioch Church, Lake County, Florida, one mile East of Altoonia on Friday before the 3rd Sunday in November 1895, Elder W. L. Harper:

To the New Beulah to meet with Beulah Church, Appling County, Georgia at Graham, E. T. V. & G. Rail Road on Friday before the second Sunday in September 1896; Elder W. L. Harper, and brethren W. H. Peacock and Davis Thornton.

To the Suwannee to meet with Long Pond Church, Levy County, Florida, the 4th Sunday in September 1896, Elder John Ellis and brother S. W. Lynes.

To the Primitive Ebenezer to meet 4th Sunday in September 1896 a pack of minutes.

To the Lower Canoochee to convene with the Church at Beard's Creek on Friday before the second Sunday in October 1896. Elder Jas. A. Thornton brethren John Thompson, John B. Mullis, Davis Thornton, John B. Thornton,

To the Primitive Pulaski to convene with Zion Hope Church, Irwin County, Georgia, 16 miles East of Sycamore on G. S. & F. Rail Road, and 3 miles north of Irwinville on Saturday before the 1st Sunday in October 1896; Elder Jas. A. Thornton, brethren J. B. Mullis and B. D. James

12th. Called for the Corresponding Letter which was read and adopted, and on motion the minutes was read and after prayer by Elder D. W. Taylor and a short but interesting admonition by the Moderator the body adjourned to the next time and place.

ELDER JAS. A. THORNTON, Moderator.
R. G. O'BERRY, Clerk.

J. B.
S. W.

CORRESPONDING LETTER.

The Alapaha River Primitive Baptist Association in session with the Church at Mt. Pleasant, Ware county, Georgia, November the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd 1895, to the several associations with whom she corresponds sendeth greeting:

Dear Brethren in the Lord:—By the continued mercies of our God we have been spared and blessed to hold another session of our body in peace. Our churches are all represented and peace seems to abound. Our correspondence, was not as full as desired yet, our poor hearts has been made to rejoice at the good news of salvation by grace as set forth by your ministers. We desire a continuance of your brotherly correspondence. We will next meet if the Lord wills with the church at Elim, Coffee County, Georgia, two miles from Sessions on the Way-cross Air Line Rail Road Friday before the first Sunday in November 1896, when we hope to meet a goodly number of you again. Till then farewell.

JAS. A. THORNTON, Moderator.

R. G. OBERRY, Clerk.

ORDER OF PREACHING.

Friday November the 1st, Elder D. W. Taylor of the Primitive Pulaski Association.

Saturday A. M., Elders Z. H. Bennett of the Indian River and J. Cribb of the Lower Canoochee. P. M., services Elders R. H. Barwick of the Ochlockonee and Jas. A. Osteen of the Union.

Sunday Elders J. Cribb and Z. H. Bennett. Closed by the Moderator.

JAS. A. THORNTON, Moderator.

R. G. OBERRY, Clerk.

NAMES OF MINISTERS AND THEIR POST OFFICES.

Elder James A. Thornton,	Elsie,
" Jesse Tyre,	Hillyard,
" John Donaldson,	Patterson,
" A. L. R. Avant,	Patterson,
" John Moody,	Screven,
" J. W. Hogarth,	Blackshear,
" John Ellis,	Sessions,
" W. L. Harper,	Waycross,
" J. I. Minshew,	Elsie,
" J. C. Williams,	Tanner,

LICENTIATES.

J. B. Mullis,	Bickley
S. W. Lyons,	Nahunta

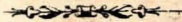
DECORUM.

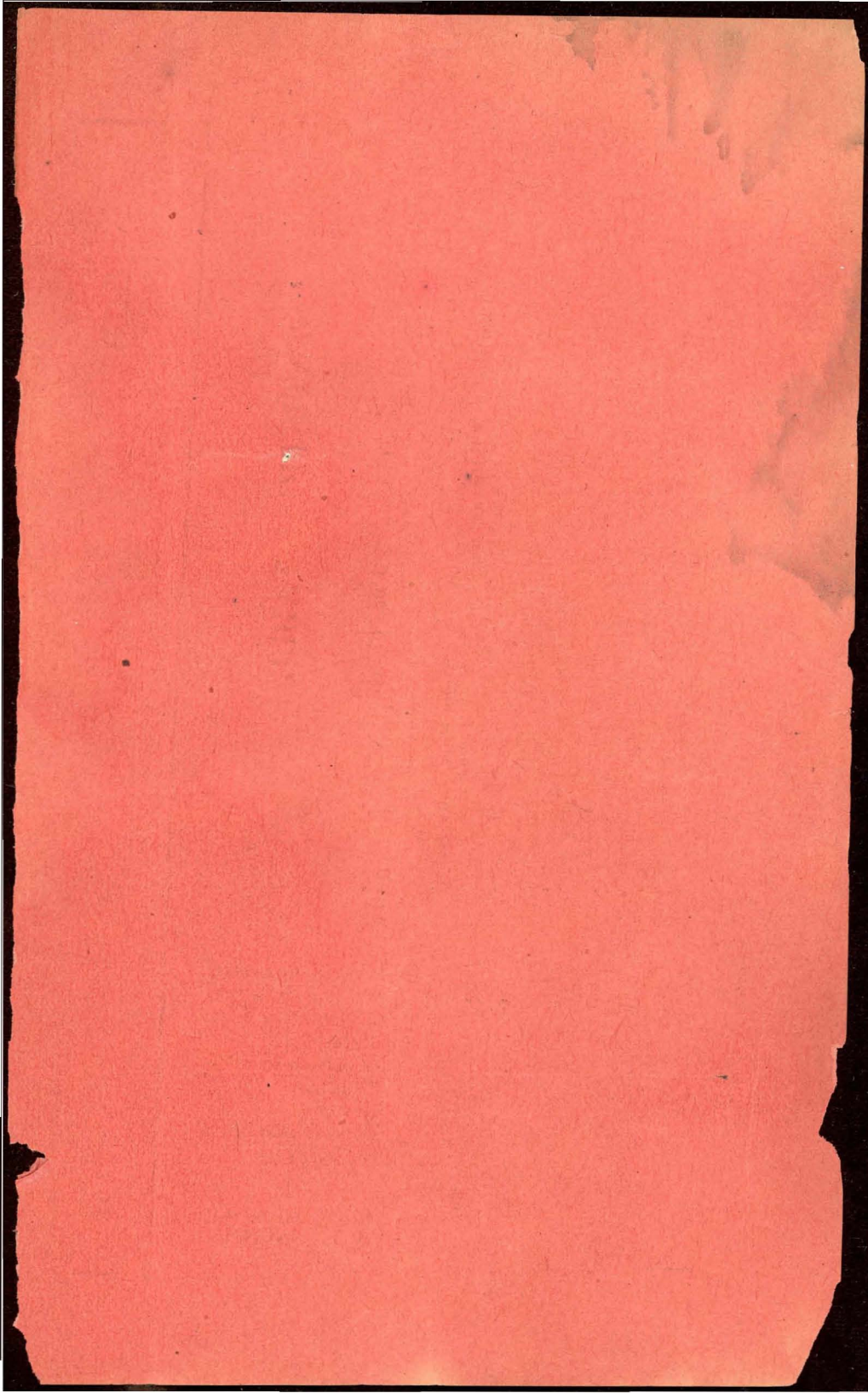
1. This Association shall open and close with prayer.
2. Those members chosen by the churches of our union shall compose the Alapaha River Primitive Baptist Association.
3. The members thus chosen shall furnish letters from their respective churches certifying their appointments, together with their number baptized, received by letter, restored, dismissed, expelled, dead and total number in fellowship, since our last session.
4. This Association shall have no power to lord it over God's heritage, or infringe upon any of the internal rights of the churches.
5. This Association shall have a Moderator and a Clerk, who shall be chosen by the members present.
6. It shall be the duty of the Moderator to keep order, to explain and put questions. He shall have the ~~above~~ right of speech as any other member, provided the chair be filled, but shall not vote unless the body be equally divided.
7. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep a fair record of the proceedings of the Association. Minutes taken shall be read, and amended if needed, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the Association adjourns.
8. Any new church petitioning by letter and delegates for admission in this Association shall be, if found orthodox and orderly, received by the Moderator extending the right hand of fellowship to her delegates.
9. Each church shall have the right to send two delegates to this Association, and no more.
10. Every query presented shall be fully stated in writing and approved by a majority before taken up.
11. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the observation of the Association, unless withdrawn by the person who made it, with the consent of the Association.
12. Every person who speaks in debate shall rise from his seat and address the Moderator in an orderly manner, and shall not be interrupted while speaking, unless he departs from the subject.
13. No person shall speak more than three times on the same subject, and shall not continue his speech more than ten minutes at a time, without leave of the Association.
14. There shall be no talking or whispering in time of a public speech, or reflection cast upon the speaker.
15. When a question is decided by vote, there shall be no more debating on the subject.
16. No member shall absent himself from the Association without leave of the Association.
17. If any member shall break any of the rules of this Association he shall be immediately reprovved by the Moderator.
18. These rules shall be read to every Association previous to entering on business.
19. To keep up a correspondence with sister associations of the same faith and order, that a chain of connection may be preserved among the churches.
20. To give the best advice they can in matter of difficulty; and if the union be broken between any of the churches, to inquire into the cause of the breach, and to use their best endeavors to remove the difficulty; but, if the breach cannot be healed, to withdraw from any church which they judge unsound in faith or immoral in practices till they are reclaimed.
21. To invite any of the ministers to assistance, if necessary.

22. It shall be the duty of this Association to provide for the general union of the churches, and not hold them in union that support any modern Missionary, Bible, or Sunday School Union Society, or Theological School, either in themselves or any other person, or is in any society that is now or may be hereafter constituted under the pretext of circulating the Gospel of Christ, or any Secret Society, nor will she correspond with any Association that supports or is in any of the above named societies.

ABSTRACT OF PRINCIPLES SUBSCRIBED TO BY THIS ASSOCIATION.

1. We believe in one true and living God, and that there are three persons in the Godhead—Father, Son and Holy Ghost.
2. We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the Word of God, and the only rule of faith and practice.
3. We believe in the doctrine of eternal and particular election.
4. We believe in the doctrine of original sin.
5. We believe in man's impotency to recover himself from the state he is in by nature, of his own free will and ability.
6. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God by the imputed righteousness of Christ.
7. We believe that God's elect shall be called, regenerated, and sanctified by the Holy Ghost.
8. We believe that saints shall persevere in grace and never finally fall away.
9. We believe that baptism, the Lord's supper, and washing the saints' feet, are ordinances of Jesus Christ, and that the true method of baptism is immersion.
10. We believe that the punishment of the wicked will be everlasting, and the joys of the righteous shall be eternal.
11. We believe that no man has the right to the administration of the ordinances of baptism and the Lord's supper except such as are regularly called and come under the hands of the Presbytery.
12. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and a general judgment.





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