

MINUTES

OF THE

**THIRTY-NINTH
ANNUAL SESSION**

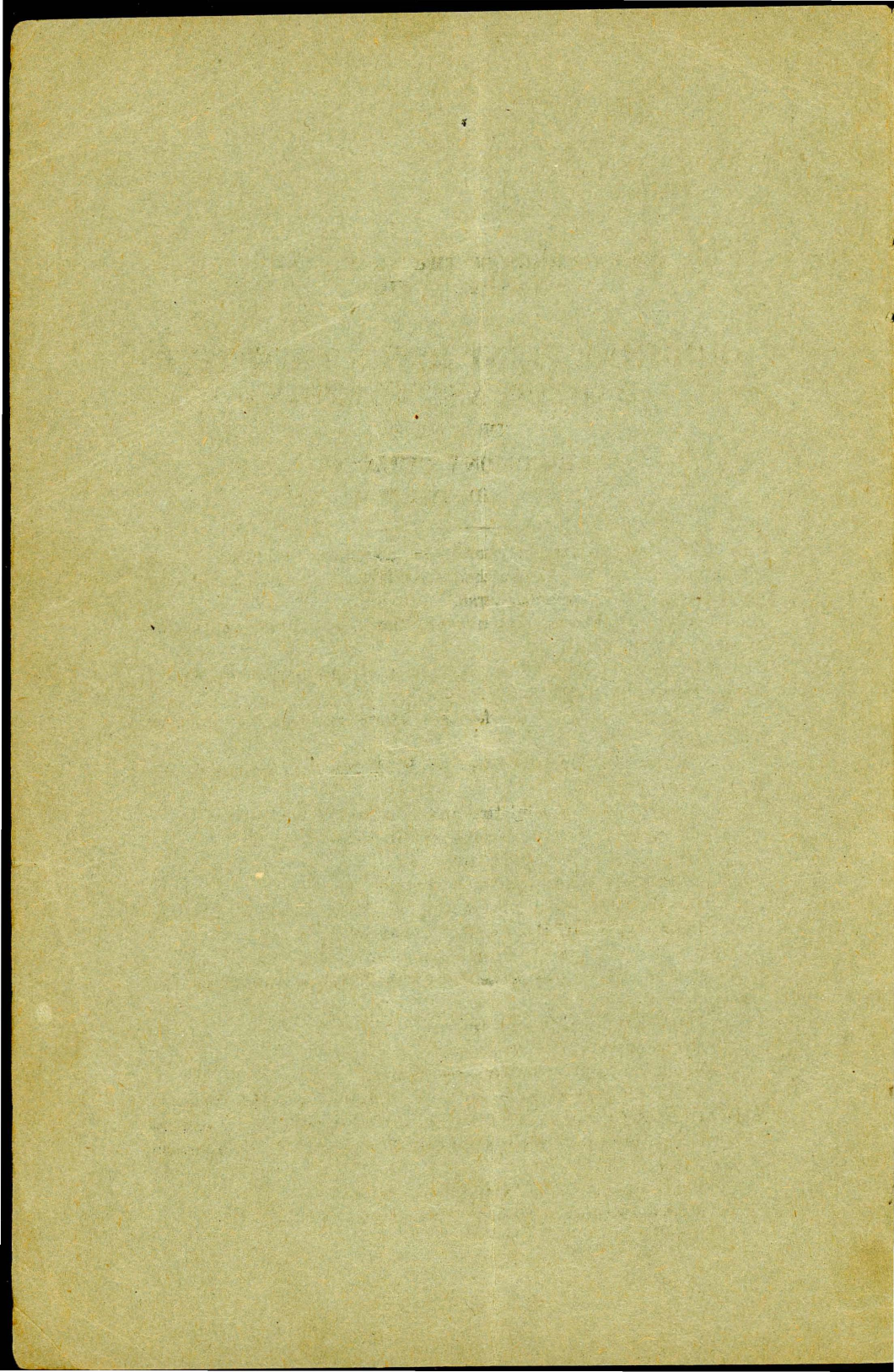
OF THE

**ORIGINAL FLINT RIVER PRIMITIVE
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**

HELD WITH

PIEDMONT CHURCH, GRADY COUNTY, GA.

October 5th, 6th, & 7th, 1923.



PROCEEDINGS OF THE THIRTY-NINTH
ANNUAL SESSION
—of the—
**ORIGINAL FLINT RIVER PRIMITIVE
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**
HELD WITH
PIEDMONT CHURCH
OCTOBER 5TH, 6TH, 7TH, 1923.

The introductory sermon was preached by Elder T. E. McGowan of the Choctawhatchee Association. Text, first chapter of Genesis, twenty-seventh verse.

After an hour's intermission, the Association was called to order by the Clerk.

On motion, Elder M. E. Petty was elected temporary Moderator. Prayer by Elder B. M. Jowers.

Received letters from fourteen Churches; read and minuted their state.

On motion, elected Elder M. E. Petty as moderator, and E. L. Maxwell as clerk.

Invited visiting ministers and brethren to seats with us.

On motion, omitted reading the decorum.

Called for petitionary letters.

Appointed committees as follows:

On preaching and finance.—J. G. Rehberg, E. P. Thomas, J. C. Killebrew, F. M. Parritt, T. M. Maxwell.

To Write Corresponding Letter.—F. A. Belcher.

Called for correspondence from sister associations and received as follows:

From Lotts Creek—no tidings.

From Wetumpky—minutes.

From Lower Wetumpky—no tidings.

From Choctawhatchee—W. J. Vickers, S. M. Broxton, Elder T. E. McGowan, A. C. Gray, T. Q. Culpepper, Henry Arnold.

From Harmony—M. Blackshear, M. J. Ward, W. E. Harrison, B. D. Jones.

From Upatoi—T. F. Robinson, J. D. Pate.

Adjourned until 9:30 a. m., Saturday.

SATURDAY MORNING.

Met pursuant to adjournment.

Prayer by Elder J. F. Lord.

Called the roll.

Read and adopted corresponding letter.

Renewed call for correspondence.

Called for visitors and received as follows: Elder B. M. Jowers and Elder J. F. Lord.

Returned correspondence to sister associations as follows:

To Lotts Creek—F. A. Belcher, W. A. Adams.

To the Wetumpky, which will convene at Birmingham, Ala., on Friday before the 4th Sunday in Sept., 1924—Elder Dallas Jowers.

To Lower Wetumpky, which will meet with Mt. Gilliard Church, 10 miles north of Wetumpky, Ala., on Friday before the second Sunday in Oct., 1924—Elder Dallas Jowers.

To Choctawhatchee, which will convene with County Line Church, ten miles north of Abbeville, Ala., on Friday before the fourth Sunday in Sept., 1924—H. R. Strickland, A. C. Bush, J. W. Runnels, Elder M. E. Petty.

To the Harmony, which will convene with Hebron Church, at Andersonville, Ga., on Friday before the second Sunday in Oct., 1923—T. M. Maxwell, F. A. Belcher, W. A. Adams, Elder M. E. Petty.

To the Upatoi, which will convene with Bethel Church, two miles south of Butler, Ga., on Tuesday after the first Sunday in Sept., 1924—Elder Dallas Jowers.

Appointed union meetings as follows:

The first district to meet with Hartsfield Church the first fifth Sunday in 1924.

The second district to meet with Olive Grove Church the second fifth Sunday, 1924.

The third district to meet with Poplar Springs Church on the third fifth Sunday in 1924.

Appointed the next session of our body to meet with Shady Grove Church, four miles south of Arlington, Ga., on G. F. & A. R. R. on Friday before the first Sunday in Oct., 1924.

CORRESPONDING LETTER.

The Flint River Association, now in session at Piedmont Church, in Grady County, Georgia:

To her sister associations, with whom she corresponds, sends Greetings: Dearly beloved in the Lord, through the tender mercies of our God, we have been spared to hold another session of our body in peace, love and sweet christian fellowship. Our hearts have been made glad, and our hope that sometimes seems as if it was ebbing away, seems strengthened by the coming of your

servants and messengers, with glad tidings of great joy. We hope and pray that we may be able to retain your sweet correspondence for many years hence.

The next session of our body will be held, the Lord willing, with the church at Shady Grove, in Early County, Georgia, near Rowena, Ga., on the G. F. & A. R. R., on the first Sunday in October, 1924, and Friday and Saturday before, when and where we hope to meet your lovely correspondence again.

F. A. BELCHER, Cairo, Ga.

FINANCIAL REPORT.

Called for the report of the finance committee, which reported as follows:

Received from the Churches.....	\$110.75
Recommend that the clerk be paid for having 700 copies of minutes printed and other expenses.	\$40.00
To ministers.....	\$70.75
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	\$110.75 \$110.75

Resolved that the heartfelt thanks of this association be tendered the brethren, sisters and kind friends around Piedmont Church for their kind hospitality during the meeting, and may the blessings of God rest upon them all.

ELDER M. E. PETTY, Moderator.

E. L. MAXWELL, Clerk.

ORDER OF PREACHING.

Friday A. M.—Elder T. E. McGowan, of Choctawhatchee Association, Alabama.

Friday P. M.—Elder J. N. Dunaway, of Tennessee.

Saturday A. M.—Elder J. F. Lord.

Saturday A. M.—Elder B. M. Jowers.

Saturday P. M.—Elder M. E. Petty; Elder Dallas Jowers.

Sunday A. M.—Elder T. E. McGowan, of the Choctawhatchee Association, of Alabama.

Sunday A. M.—Elder J. N. Dunaway of Tennessee.

Closed by Elder M. E. Petty, of our body.

Names and Addresses of Visiting Ministers.

Elder B. M. Jowers.....Georgiana, Ala.

Elder J. N. Dunaway.....Dechard, Tenn.

Elder J. F. Lord.....Albany, Ga.

Elder T. E. McGowan.....Baker Hill, Ala.

Names and Addresses of Ministers of this Association.

Elder D. M. Moneyham.....R. F. D. 4, Whigham, Ga.

Elder M. E. Petty.....Donalsonville, Ga.

Elder N. M. Cook.....Brinson, Ga.

Elder Dallas Jowers.....Cairo, Ga.

RULES OF DECORUM.

1. This Association shall open and close with prayer.
2. The members who are regularly chosen by the churches in our union shall compose the Flint River Primitive Baptist Association, two-thirds of which shall form a quorum.
3. 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 or otherwise—dismissed, excommunicated, restored and dead since our last Association.
4. The Association shall have no power to lord it over God's heritage, nor infringe on the rights of any Church.
5. This Association shall have a Moderator and a Clerk, who shall be chosen of the members present.
6. It shall be the duty of the Moderator to preserve order, to explain and put questions. He shall have the same 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 and the minutes taken shall be read, and amended if necessary, and signed by the Moderator and the clerk before the Association rises. The clerk shall keep a file of the minutes, be present at each Association, and shall take charge of the Association fund, and pay out any sum upon the order of the Association, and shall be held accountable for all money in his hands by the Association.
8. 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.
9. Each Church shall have the right to send two delegates to the Association and no more.
10. Every query shall be for Church authority, and fairly presented in writing.
11. Every motion made and seconded shall claim the action 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, and shall not be interrupted while speaking except he depart from the subject.
13. No person shall speak more than three time on the same subject without leave of the Association.
14. There shall be no talking or whispering in time of a public speech nor reflection upon the speaker.
15. Whenever a case is decided by vote, there shall be no more debating on the subject.

16. No person shall absent himself from the Association without leave of the Moderator.

17. 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 Convention and Theological Schools and such like, because their connection with the Church of God is unauthorized in the scriptures. As such we cannot fellowship them or admit to our Church privilege any such person who is therewith connected in any wise, believing such to be speculative in their nature and fruitful sources for the corruption of the Church. In relation to Free Masonry, we recommend to our brethren, who are already attached to the fraternity, to immediately withdraw therefrom, and when brethren leave the Church and join said fraternity, they are not such as "follow after the things which make for peace, and the things wherewith one may edify another."—Romans XIV 19. And such, unless they manifest a suitable repentance and immediately withdraw therefrom, and make suitable acknowledgements, be rejected from the fellowship of the Church.

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

19. It is the duty of this Association to provide for the general Union of the Churches—to give the best advice in matters of difficulty, and if the Union is broken between any of the sister Churches, to inquire into the cause of the breach, and use the best endeavors to remove the difficulty; but if the breach cannot be healed, to withdraw from any Church or Churches that may be deemed unsound in faith, or immoral in practice, until they be removed.

20. To invite brethren from sister Associations and ministers of our faith and order to seats with us.

21. To keep a correspondence with our Associations of the same faith and order, so that a chain of connection may be preserved throughout the denomination.

22. If any member shall break the rules of this decorum, he shall be immediately reprov'd by the Moderator.

23. The rules shall be read to every Association prior to entering on business.

24. The rules of this decorum may be altered or amended at any time, by a majority of three-fourths of the Association.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

1. We believe in one true 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, by his own free will and ability.

6. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God only 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 the Saints shall preserve in grace, and never finally fall away.

9. We believe that baptism, the Lord's Supper and washing the Saint's feet are ordinances of Jesus Christ, and true believers are the only subjects of these ordinances, and that the only true mode of baptism is immersion.

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

11. We believe that no ministers have the right to the administration of the ordinances only such as are regularly called and come under the imposition of the hands of the presbytery.

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

YEARLY MEETINGS.

Pisgah	June
Popular Springs	June
Piedmont	June
Tired Creek	June
Trinity	June
Mispah	June
Hartsfield	June
Hopewell	June
Union (Miller)	June
Olive Grove	July
Mount Olive	September
Sharon	June
Prosperity	July
Shady Grove	July

MEMENTO

Elder W. M. Hollingsworth.

Elder W. M. Hollingsworth was born October 6th, 1834, and departed this life March 3rd, 1923, he was blessed to live a long and useful life. He served in Lee's army during the Confederate War, and soon after the close of the war, as an able minister of the New Testament, he began the services of preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ our Lord, and administering the ordinances of the church, which service he faithfully rendered to the time of his death. He was an able pastor, a sober and wise councillor in moderating, and the execution of gospel discipline. He served one church continuously for 57 years, another 46 years. He served as moderator of the Original Flint River Association for 37 years, being her moderator at the time of his death. He possessed a loveable disposition, kind, patient and forbearing. To know him was to love him. He was faithful and firm though, in his sacrifices and labor of love for peace and welfare of Zion, not willing to make any sacrifices of principle, nor any compromise with error. Truly a great and good man in Israel has fallen, and the people in general mourn their loss, yet we feel that our loss is his eternal gain. Having met the last enemy, suffered the last pain, where Jesus makes a dying bed feel soft as downy pillows are; he died as he had lived in the triumphs of a living faith. He will be greatly missed. Friends and loved ones according to nature, will miss him, but most of all, he will be missed by the churches, where he so earnestly contended for the sovereign and discriminating grace of God in the salvation of poor sinners, but we will meekly bow to the will of God. Submitted in love and sympathy to all bereaved ones.

J. J. TURNIPSEED.

STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCHES	CLERKS and P. O.	PASTORS	DELEGATES	Exper. and Baptism	By Confession	By Letter	Restored	Dis. by Letter	Excluded	Deceased	Total Membership	Sunday of Meeting	Contributions
First District													
Mizpah	A. P. Fain, Pelham, Ga.	M. E. Petty	W. A. Adams	0	0	1	0	1	0	2	64	1	\$11.00
Hopewell	J. C. Ragan, Pelham, Ga.	A. A. Garret	A. R. Brundage, J. J. Sizemore	0	0	0	0	0	0	1		2	7.25
Hartsfield	J. C. Killebrew, Hartsfield, Ga.	H. H. Philips	J. C. Killebrew, J. M. Pate	4	0	0	0	2	1	0	25	3	6.50
Prosperity													
Second District													
Union	T. Pickren, Colquitt, Ga.	T. V. Price	E. P. Thomas, J. W. Runnels	7	0	0	3	1	0	0	48	2	10.00
Sharon	W. J. Jernigan, Donalsonville, Ga.	Dallis Jowers	J. M. Griner, S. E. Fivash	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	1	5.00
Shady Grove	W. R. Taylor, Arlington, Ga.	M. E. Petty	M. E. Petty, W. C. Bryan	0	0	1	0	2	0	3	20		10.00
Olive Grove	J. J. Adams, Iron City, Ga.	N. M. Cook	D. H. Pelham, J. S. Adams	3	0	0	0	0	0	2	38	3	8.25
		T. V. Price											
Mt. Olive	A. I. Brunson, Sneads, Fla.			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	4	1.00
Third District													
Tired Creek	G. S. Key, Cairo, Ga.	M. E. Petty	C. Ulmer, W. B. Lowe	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	82	2	10.00
Trinity	R. C. Hollingsworth, Whigham, Ga.	Dallis Jowers	Eld. Dallis Jowers, W. L. Perkins	1	0	2	0	0	0	3	41	3	10.00
Pisgah	J. N. Sanders, Whigham, Ga.	Dallas Jowers	J. N. Sanders, W. H. Harrison	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	52	4	10.00
Poplar Springs	J. G. Rehberg, Cairo, Ga.	M. E. Petty	J. G. Rehberg, F. A. Belcher	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	28	4	10.00
Piedmont	E. L. Maxwell, Whigham, Ga.	D. M. Moneyham	E. L. Maxwell, F. M. Parritt	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	18	1	10.00

