

MINUTES

OF THE

Seventy-seventh Annual Session

OF THE

Echeconnee Association

OF PRIMITIVE BAPTISTS

HELD WITH

Bethlehem Church, Upson County, Georgia,

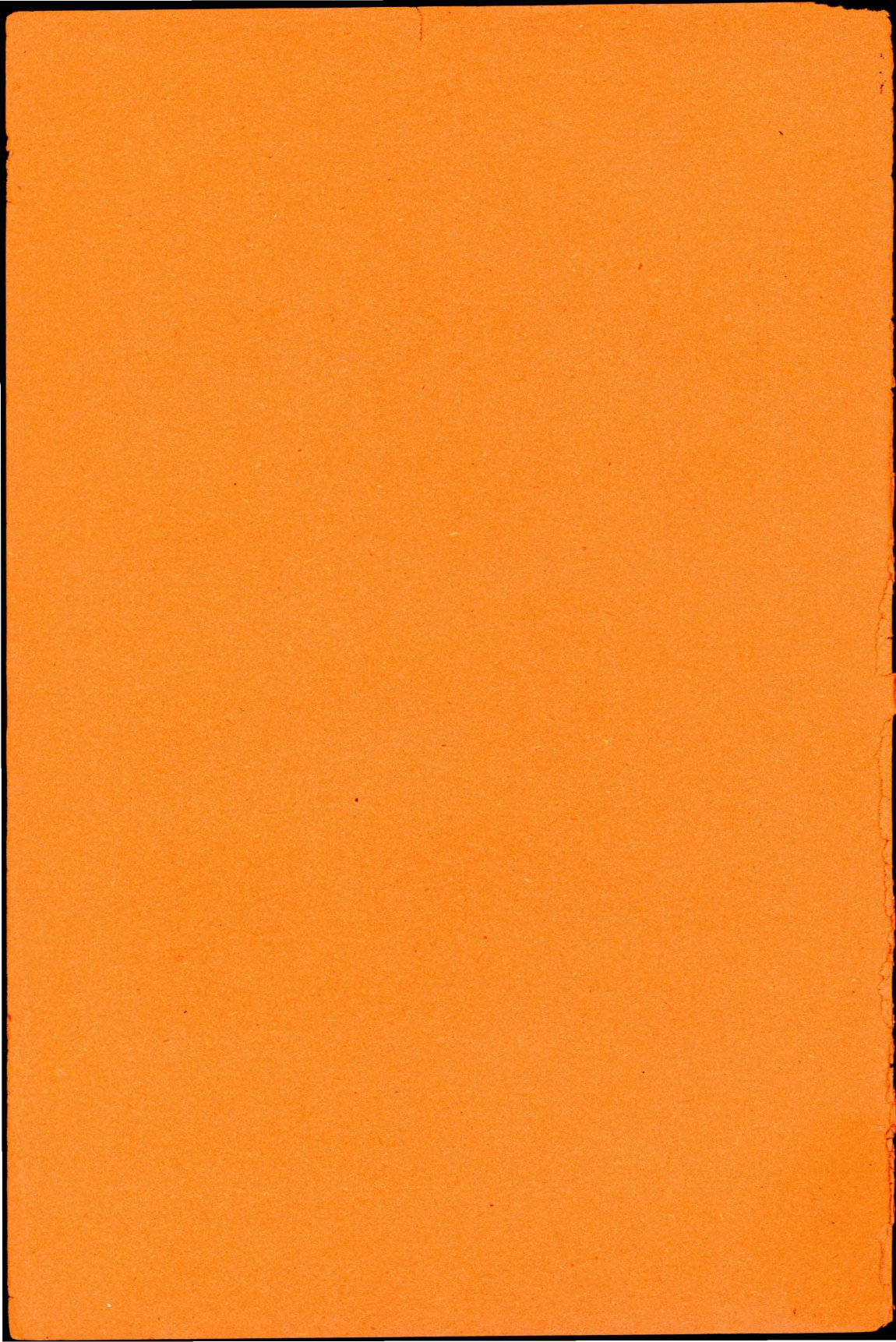
September 15th, 16th and 17th, 1905.

...OFFICERS...

Eld. W. W. CHILDS, Moderator, Yatesville, Ga.
H. E. MURRAY, Clerk, Fort Valley, Ga.

COLUMBUS, GA.:

JAS. J. & THOS. GILBERT, PRINTERS AND MFG. STATIONERS.
1905.



MINUTES

The Seventy-seventh Annual Session of the ECHECONNEE ASSOCIATION OF PRIMITIVE BAPTISTS was held with Bethlehem Church, Upson county, Ga., September 15th, 16th and 17th, 1905.

1st. After singing and prayer by Eld. W. J. Green, from the Ocmulgee Association, the Introductory Sermon was delivered by Eld. Lee Hanks, from the Flint River Association. Text, Isa. xxxiii. 20, 21.

2d. After prayer by Eld. D. F. Woodall, from the Upatoie Association, the Association was organized by the Moderator, and the letters from the churches were called for and read, and the names of messengers enrolled.

3d. Proceeded to organize the Association permanently by the election of a Moderator and Clerk, which was done by acclamation, and resulted in the re-election of Eld. W. W. Childs, Moderator, and H. E. Murray, Clerk.

4th. Appointed committees as follows:

On Preaching—J. M. McFarlan, E. M. Barker, J. B. C. Madden, J. W. Fielder, J. J. Britt.

On Contributions and to Distribute Corresponding Minutes—T. M. Haygood, J. S. McGee, N. T. Dumas.

To Write Corresponding Letter—W. J. Heard.

On motion, it was agreed to appoint a Committee on Deceased Ministers and Deacons. Committee: Elds. I. Grant, S. T. Bently, W. W. Childs.

5th. Invited visiting brethren and sisters to seats with us.

6th. Called for correspondence from sister Associations, and received as follows:

From the Upatoie Association—Elds. D. F. Woodall, M. G. Bayne, and Bro. J. A. Adams.

From the Marietta Old School—Eld. J. A. Arrington.

From the Primitive Western—Eld. A. B. Whatley, and Brethren J. W. Willis, J. G. Brown, J. B. McGraw.

From the Harmony—A package of minutes.

From the Primitive Ebenezer—No correspondents nor letter.

Suspended the regular order of business to receive visitors from sister Associations and churches with whom we are not in regular correspondence, and received as follows:

From the Yellow River Association—Eld. T. J. Bazemore, and Licentiate G. W. Rowe.

From the Ocmulgee—Elds. W. J. Green and J. D. Curtis, and Brethren B. M. Moore, J. W. Newton.

From the Flint River—Eld. Lee Hanks.

From the Ochlocknee—Eld. R. H. Barwick.

7th. Resumed the order of business and called for petitionary letters.

Adjourned to 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

SATURDAY MORNING, Sept. 16th, 1905.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by the Moderator.

1st. Called the roll, and dispensed with reading the Decorum.

2d. Called for further correspondence from sister Associations, and received Bro. W. L. Caldwell, from the Upatoie.

3d. Renewed the invitation to visiting brethren to seats with us.

4th. Returned correspondence to sister Associations:

To the Upatoie—To convene with the Church at Mt. Moriah, Muscogee county, Ga. (six miles north from Columbus), at their usual time, on Tuesday after the first Sunday in September, 1906—Elds. S. T. Bently, W. W. Childs, J. T. Young.

To the Marietta Old School—To convene with the Sorrell Springs Church (four miles north from Powder Springs), Cobb county, Ga., commencing on Friday before the first Sunday in October, 1905—Return minutes.

To the Primitive Western—To convene with the Church at Hopeful, Fayette county, Ga. (seven miles from Fairburn, on the A. & W. R. R., and five miles from Fayetteville, on the Southern R. R.), commencing on Tuesday after the first Sunday in October, 1905—Eld. Isaiah Grant.

To the Harmony—To convene with the Church at Macedonia, Terrell county, Ga., commencing on Friday before the second Sunday in October, 1905. (The church is situated nine miles east from Dawson, three miles from Sasser, on the S. A. L. R. R., and seven miles from Bronwood, on the Central R. R.)—Elds. S. T. Bently, W. W. Childs, J. T. Young.

To the Ebenezer—To convene with the Church at Mount Olive, Lau-

rens county, Ga., on Friday before the fourth Sunday in September, 1905—Return minutes.

5th. Called for the contributions sent up by the churches, and received for minutes \$27.20, and for the ministry, \$69.35.

6th. Appointed Union Meetings as follows:

1st. With Beaver Creek Church, Houston county, Ga. (four miles from Bonaire, on the G. S. & F. R. R.), commencing on Friday before the fifth Sunday in April, 1906.

2d. With High Shoals Church, Monroe county, Ga., commencing on Friday before the fifth Sunday in July, 1906.

7th. Appointed the next session of this body to convene with Friendship Church, Upson county, Ga. (ten miles west from Thomaston, two miles southeast from Crest, on the M. & B. R. R.), commencing on Friday before the third Sunday in September, 1906.

8th. Agreed to have 1,700 copies of these minutes printed and distributed in the usual manner.

9th. Called for the Corresponding Letter, which was read and adopted.

Called for the report of the Committee on Deceased Ministers and Deacons, which was read, received and ordered printed in the minutes.

10th. Read minutes, and after prayer by Eld. S. T. Bently, of the body, adjourned.

ELD. W. W. CHILDS, Moderator.

H. E. MURRAY, Clerk.

Order of Preaching.

FRIDAY P. M.—Eld. M. G. Bayne, followed by Eld. J. D. Curtis.

SATURDAY A. M.—Eld. A. B. Whatley, followed by Eld. D. F. Woodall.

SATURDAY P. M.—Eld. T. J. Bazemore, followed by Eld. J. A. Arrington.

SUNDAY A. M.—Eld. R. H. Barwick, followed by Eld. Lee Hanks.

Closed by the Moderator.

Corresponding Letter.

The Echeconnee Association, now in session with Bethlehem Church, Upson county, Ga., to her sister Associations with whom she corresponds, sendeth greeting:

DEAR BRETHREN IN THE LORD: It is our happy privilege to meet again in an associate capacity. Our churches are all represented, and come

bearing the glad tidings of peace and prosperity. We feel thankful for the coming of your correspondents, and especially your ministers, who preach to us the gospel of Christ to our comfort and to the glory of God. Come again to see us, brethren.

The next session of our body will convene, the Lord willing, with Friendship Church, Upson county, Ga. (two miles southeast from Crest, on the M. & B. R. R., and ten miles west from Thomaston), commencing at our regular time. Persons going will be met at Crest with conveyances.

H. E. MURRAY, Clerk.

ELD. W. W. CHILDS, Moderator.

Report of Committee on Deceased Ministers.

We, your Committee, appointed to draft resolutions upon the death of our beloved brother, ELD. WILDE C. CLEVELAND, whose demise has occurred since our last session, beg to report.

First. That we deeply feel the loss of this great and useful man whom God had called and qualified with the gift of the ministry in the power and demonstration of the spirit. In early life he was awakened by the Spirit to see himself a sinner, and through grace found forgiveness of sins through Jesus, whom he ever preached as the way, the truth, and the life. On May 16th, 1873, he was ordained to the ministry and devoted his life to the service of the brethren—building up the churches where he was called to serve and teaching them the great doctrine of God our Saviour, and exhorting them to love and good works with that ability which few men possess. He was true to his conviction of right, and ever ready to confess and humbly turn from that he found to be wrong.

Be it Resolved, That while we bow in humble submission to the decree of our Heavenly Father we place on record in this, the minutes of our Association, our sorrow and the high esteem and love for our departed brother.

Resolved, That we pray God to give us grace to emulate his virtues and cherish in memory's casket the great and profound truths of the gospel revealed in God's Word, and which were so earnestly contended for by our departed brother, whom we feel to say had kept the faith, fought the fight, and who has now finished his course.

We, your Committee, humbly submit the above, feeling that his loss to us is his eternal gain.

S. T. BENTLY,

I. GRANT,

W. W. CHILDS,

Committee.

The thanks of the Association are hereby tendered to the brethren, sisters and friends of Bethlehem Church and community, for their hospitality in entertaining the brethren, sisters and friends during the time of the session just closed. Also, we commend the good order of the congregation from day to day while services were being conducted.

DECORUM.

1. The Association shall be composed of members chosen by the churches in our union and duly sent to represent them in the Association, who shall be members whom they judge best qualified for that purpose, producing letters from their churches certifying their appointment, shall be entitled to seats.

2. In the letters from the churches shall be expressed their members in full fellowship, those baptized, received by letter, on confession of faith, dismissed, excommunicated and died since last Association.

3. The members thus chosen and convened shall be denominated the ECHECONNEE ASSOCIATION, providing for themselves a Moderator and Clerk, who will serve them during the session; using the pastor of the church where they assemble or choosing one from the body, as they please.

4. As one of the cardinal tenets of faith of the Primitive Baptists is that the Old and New Testaments are our only rule of faith and practice, and as the Bible recognizes no other religious disciplinary power but the Church, we hereby leave all discipline with the Church, where God in His wisdom, mercy, and in honor to His Son, placed it.

5. If new churches desire to be admitted into this union they may petition by letter and delegates, and if found orthodox and orderly, shall be received by the Association and manifested by the Moderator giving the delegates the right hand of fellowship.

6. The names of the members of the Association shall be enrolled by the Clerk, and called over as often as the Association may require.

7. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep a true record of the proceedings of the Association.

8. The minutes of the Association shall be read and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the Association adjourns.

9. Amendments to this form of government may be made at any time by a majority of the union, when they deem it necessary.

10. To correspond with sister Associations of the same faith and order.

11. The Association shall have power to adjourn themselves to any future time or place they may think most convenient to the churches in the union.

12. It is also agreed that nothing shall be so construed in the above as to interfere with the fellowship and communion of the churches or brethren of this union, or with those with whom we may correspond, directly or indirectly; and nothing shall be presented to this body as a query, or question bearing on the same, but shall be considered by the churches, as we believe is directed by the Holy Scriptures.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

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

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

3d. 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 fallen state he is in by nature, by 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 Saints shall persevere in grace, and never finally fall away.

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

10th. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, and a general judgment.

11th. We believe that the punishment of the wicked will be eternal, and the joys of the righteous will be everlasting.

12th. We believe that no minister has a right to the administration of the ordinances, only such as are regularly called and come under the imposition of the hands of the presbytery.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. The Introductory Sermon will be delivered.
2. Call for and read letters from the Churches and enroll the names of messengers.
3. Choose a Moderator and Clerk.
4. Appoint Committees as follows:
 - On Preaching.
 - To write Corresponding Letter.
 - On Contributions and to distribute Corresponding Minutes.
5. Invite Visiting Brethren to seats with us.
6. Call for Correspondence from Sister Associations.
7. Call for Petitionary Churches.

SECOND DAY.

1. Call the Roll and read Decorum.
2. Call for further Correspondence from Sister Associations.
3. Renew the invitation to Visiting Brethren to seats with us.
4. Return Correspondence to Sister Associations.
5. Receive Contributions and distribute Corresponding Minutes.
6. Appoint Union Meetings.
7. Appoint the Next Session of this body.
8. Agree on the number of Minutes to have printed.
9. Call for Corresponding Letter.
10. Read Minutes and adjourn.

SCALE OF THE CHURCHES.

CHURCHES	CLERKS	COUNTIES	POST OFFICES	NAMES OF MESSENGERS	PASTORS	Baptized	Received by Letter	Confession of Faith	Restored	Dismissed by Letter	Expelled	Deceased	Total Number	Sabbath Meetings	Money for Minutes	Money for Ministry
Sharon.....	A. J. Zelner	Monroe.....	Forsyth (R. No. 2)	W. W. Childs, T. M. Haygood.....	W. W. Childs.....	2	7	...	6	...	2	...	84	2	\$ 2 00	\$ 6 00
Bethlehem.....	J. M. McFarlin	Upson	Yatesville.....	J. M. McFarlin, E. M. Barker, Canda Sanders....	W. W. Childs.....	4	...	...	3	...	...	...	55	1	1 00	2 50
Ebenezer.....	C. J. Avera.....	Upson	Economy.....	A. W. Childs.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50	...
Good Hope.....	W. C. Gunn.....	Upson	Thomaston	W. C. Gunn, J. R. McKinley, W. T. Hall	B. C. Caldwell.....	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	24	2	50	1 00
Mount Carmel.....	J. R. Bently	Crawford	Robley.....	S. T. Bently, T. J. Childs, J. R. Bently.....	S. T. Bentley.....	...	1	...	4	...	1	...	65	3	1 00	2 00
Salem.....	J. D. McGee.....	Crawford	Knoxville.....	Isaiah Grant, J. D. McGee.....	Isaiah Grant.....	2	...	...	3	...	...	...	106	2	1 70	2 00
Providence.....	J. J. Britt	Crawford	Fort Valley.....	B. A. Childs, J. J. Britt.....	S. T. Bently	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	57	4	1 00	3 00
Fellowship.....	H. E. Murray.....	Houston	Fort Valley.....	H. E. Murray, J. W. Tabor, W. E. Champion....	W. J. Heard.....	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	30	2	1 50	1 50
Bethlehem (Bibb).....	F. W. Williams.....	Bibb.....	Macon.....	J. S. McGee, F. W. Williams, J. W. Grant.....	W. W. Childs.....	9	5	...	9	...	6	...	135	4	3 00	5 00
Ramah.....	E. G. Horne.....	Monroe.....	Yatesville (R. 2.)	N. T. Dumas.....	W. W. Childs.....	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	29	2	50	2 00
Friendship.....	W. S. Bloodworth.....	Upson	Thomaston	C. E. Bayne, W. S. Bloodworth, C. A. Kerzy.....	S. T. Bently .....	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	37	1	50	5 75
Pleasant Hill.....	J. D. Cherry.....	Houston	Dunbar.....	J. M. Frederick.....	J. T. Gardner.....	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	53	1	1 00	2 00
Sardis.....	T. M. Nash.....	Bibb.....	Macon (R. 3.)	W. J. Heard, J. W. Fielder.....	W. J. Heard.....	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	59	3	1 00	4 00
Mount Paran.....	W. J. Marshall.....	Crawford	Lizella.....	W. J. Marshall, J. L. Marshall	W. J. Green.....	9	3	...	...	2	...	...	57	1	2 00	2 00
Beaver Creek.....	J. M. Pitts.....	Houston	Kathleen.....	J. M. Hunt, W. B. Watson, C. W. Andrews.....	J. T. Reynolds.....	3	3	...	...	1	...	...	19	1	50	1 00
Shiloh.....	C. W. Woodson.....	Bibb.....	Lizella.....	J. T. Young.....	J. T. Young.....	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	18	2	75	3 00
Harmony.....	J. C. D. Bloodworth.....	Pike.....	Milner.....	T. E. Whittle, F. B. Wilder, W. C. Norris.....	W. W. Childs.....	4	1	...	4	...	2	...	43	3	1 00	6 00
High Shoals.....	T. M. Mullins.....	Monroe.....	Gogginsville, R 1	W. R. S. Mann, J. M. Childs.....	F. L. Fuller.....	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	46	1	50	3 50
Forsyth (Prim.).....	C. J. Zelner.....	Monroe.....	Forsyth.....	John Cox, J. R. Worsham.....	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	32	2	50	5 00
Mount Calvary.....	R. H. Bazemore.....	Monroe.....	Culloden (R. 1)	Represented by Letter.....	Isaiah Grant.....	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	23	3	50	2 00
Concord.....	J. A. Madden.....	Pike.....	Concord.....	J. B. C. Madden.....	J. D. O'Neal.....	1	...	...	2	1	...	...	17	3	1 00	2 00
Griffin Baptist.....	F. M. Gardner.....	Spalding.....	Griffin.....	L. W. Almond.....	F. L. Fuller.....	5	4	...	4	2	2	...	49	2-4	1 50	2 50
Emmaus.....	H. L. McKenney.....	Upson	Thomaston	F. J. Reeves, H. L. McKenney.....	D. F. Woodall.....	7	1	...	1	...	4	...	78	4	1 00	4 00
Barnesville (Pri).....	H. C. Dickey.....	Pike.....	Barnesville.....	D. L. Caldwell, H. C. Dickey	S. T. Bently .....	...	5	...	...	...	1	...	25	...	50	1 00

