

*PROCEEDINGS*  
*Eighty-Eighth Annual Session*  
*Ochlocknee Association*

*Of Old Line Primitive Baptists*

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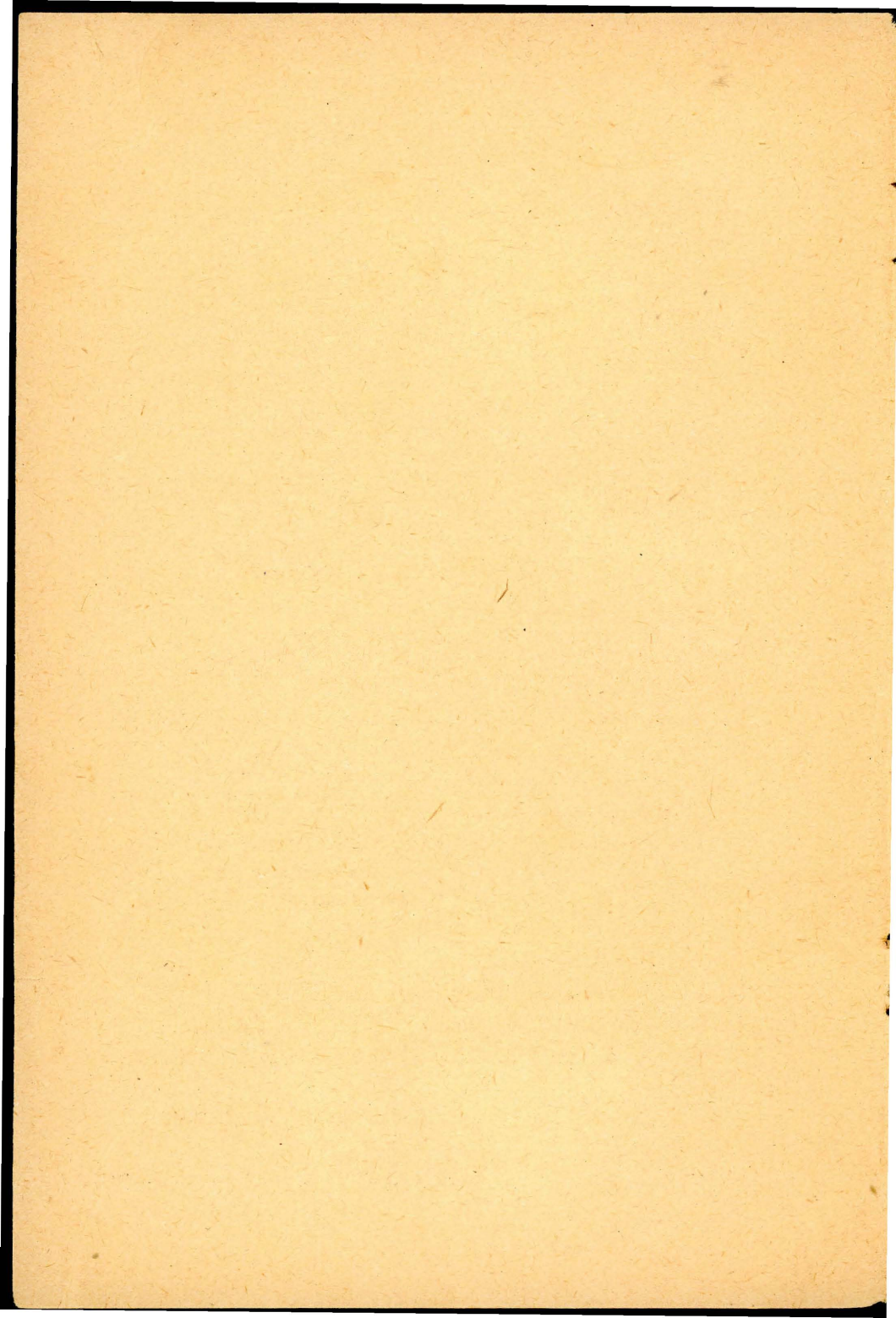
*HELD WITH*  
*Live Oak Church, Colquitt County, Ga.*  
*October 24th, 25th, and 26th, 1914.*

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*OFFICERS:*

*ELDER E. R. RHODEN,*  
*Moderator*

*J. W. GARDNER,*  
*Clerk*





# Proceedings of the Ochlocknee Association

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The Eighty-Eighth Annual Session of the Ochlocknee Primitive Baptist Association convened with Live Oak church, Colquitt county, Ga., October 24th, 25th, and 26th, 1914.

The Introductory Sermon was delivered by Elder J. T. Strawder, of the Pulaski Association. Text: 10th John, 30th verse: "I and my father are one." Prayer by Elder Henry Parrish.

- 1st. Read letters from the churches and minuted their state.
- 2nd. Elected Elder E. R. Rhoden moderator, and J. W. Gardner clerk.
- 3rd. Adopted last year's minutes as course of business.
- 4th. Read the Decorum.
- 5th. Invited brethren and ministers of our faith and order to seats with us.
- 6th. Called for petitionary letters.
- 7th. Appointed committees as follows:
  - On Preaching and Finance,---Brethren T. S. Barrow, G. J. Chitty, and F. M. Renfro, together with messengers of this church.
  - On Business,---Brethren T. M. Massey, B. B. Olliff, and W. H. Singleton, together with Moderator and Clerk.
  - On Deceased Ministers,---Elder E. Lindsay.
- 8th. Called for correspondence, and received:
  - From the San Pedro Association: Elder J. L. Townsend.
  - From the Pulaski Association: A. A. Turner, E. S. Sizemore, and J. T. Thornhill.
  - From the Union Association: Elder Henry W. Parrish.

From the Flint River Association: F. M. Jordan.

9th. Called for Petitionary Correspondence and received package of minutes from the Allabahaw Association. When by move and second they be received and correspondence returned by this Association.

F. M. Renfro,

T. M. Massey.

10th. Appointed G. W. Taylor to write Corresponding Letter.

11th. On motion adjourned until Monday morning at 8:30 o'clock. Prayer by Elder E. Lindsay.

ELDER E. R. RHODEN, Moderator.

J. W. GARDNER, Clerk.

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## Monday Morning

The Association met according to adjournment. Prayer by Elder J. L. Townsend.

1st. Called the roll.

2nd. Renewed the call for Correspondence, and received:

From the San Pedro Association:

From the Pulaski Association: Elder Henry Hall.

From the Union Association:

From the Flint River Association:

3rd. Extended invitation to visitors, and received:

From the San Pedro Association:

From the Pulaski Association: Elder J. T. Strawder, B. E. McCranie, and M. W. Webb.

From the Union Association:

From the Flint River Association: Elder J. W. Williamson, T. J. Davis, A. C. Carter, and Elder H. Godwin.

4th. Called for report of Business Committee, and is as follows:

We, your Business Committee, examined the corresponding



minutes and find nothing to object to.

5th. Returned Correspondence as follows:

To the San Pedro Association, to convene on Friday before the First Sunday in October, next, 1915, with \_\_\_\_\_ church, 2 miles from Obrien on A. C. L. railroad, T. M. Massey, W. H. Singleton, and R. L. Watson.

To the Pulaski Association, to be held with New Friendship church on Saturday before First Sunday in October, 1915, one mile from Hahira, on G. S. & F. railroad: F. M. Renfro, Elder E. Lindsay, L. H. Avera, T. M. Massey, and Elder E. R. Rhoden.

3rd. To the Union Association, to be held with Valley Grove church, nearest point on railroad, Mixon Siding, on Ocilla Southern, to be held on Saturday before the Third Sunday in October, 1915: J. Z. Paulk, Elder E. R. Rhoden, E. Lindsay, and J. W. Gardner.

4th. To the Flint River Association, to be held with Union church, Mitchell county, 14 miles west of Pelham on A. C. L. railroad, to convene on Saturday before First Sunday in November, 1914: J. W. Gardner, and J. W. Strickland.

5th. Called for Marked Letters and agreed to hold next session of the body with Bethel church, 8 miles east of Pavo on Georgia Northern Railway; 7 miles south of Berlin, on V. M. & W. Railroad, to begin on Saturday before the Fourth Sunday in October, 1915.

6th. Called for Corresponding Letter. Read and adopted.

7th. General Meetings to be as follows:

The First District: First Fifth Sunday in 1915, with Ty Ty church on the A. B. & A. Railroad, 4 miles north of Ennis.

The Second District: The Second Fifth Sunday in 1915, with Harmony church, one and one-half miles east of Barwick on Georgia Northern Railway.

8th. Called for Circular Letter. Read and adopted.

9th. Appointed W. H. Singleton to write next circular letter.

10th. Called for report of Committee on Finance:

We, your Committee on Finance, submit the following: We find \$43.70 as contributions from the churches. We recommend

\$30.00 for printing minutes and clerk's services, \$13.70 to be divided among the visiting ministers. We recommend that six hundred minutes be printed, four hundred for the churches, and the balance for correspondence.

T. S. Barrow,  
G. J. Chitty,  
J. J. Giles,  
M. W. Clark,  
F. M. Renfroe.

11th. Called for report on Deceased Ministers. Read and adopted.

12th. On motion adjourned to meet at Bethel church on Saturday before the Fourth Sunday in October, 1915. Prayer by Elder W. H. Singleton.

ELDER E. R. RHODEN, Moderator.  
J. W. GARDNER, Clerk.

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## Resolution of Thanks

Resolved, That we tender our heart-felt thanks to our brethren and sisters of Live Oak church and friends for their kindness and care ring our stay among them, and pray that God most abundantly bless them according to His tender mercies.

ELDER E. R. RHODEN, Moderator.  
J. W. GARDNER, Clerk.

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## In Memory of Elder W. Z. Stripling

Again it has pleased the Giver of every Good and Perfect Gift to remove from our midst one of our dearly beloved brethren. Brother Elder W. Z. Stripling, born March 13th, 1858, died April 8th, 1914.



United with the Primitive Baptists at TyTy church, April 24th, 1886. Commenced preaching Dec. 8th, 1894, later on ordained to the full ministry of the gospel and spent the remainder of his life in the service of God, serving a number of churches as pastor.

While we regret the loss of our brother, we feel that our loss is his eternal gain, and try to bow in humble submission to the will of Him who doeth all things well.

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## Order of Preaching

Saturday Morning: The Introductory Sermon by Elder J. T. Strawder.

Saturday Afternoon: Elders J. L. Townsend and Henry Hall.

Sunday Morning: Elders H. W. Parrish and Henry Godwin.

Sunday Afternoon: Brother Mathews and Elder Williamson.

Monday Morning: Elders Hugh Connell and J. L. Townsend.  
Closed by the Moderator.

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## Address of Ministers

Elder D. N. Williams, Claxton, Ga.

Elder A. L. Pearse, Moultrie, Ga.

Elder E. Lindsay, Tifton, Ga.

Elder Hugh Connell, Barwick, Ga.

Elder E. R. Rhoden, Moultrie, Ga.

## **Licentiates**

L. Johnson, Moultrie, Ga.

W. H. Singleton, Pavo, Ga.

J. W. Gardner, Pavo, Ga.

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## **Corresponding Letter**

We, the Ochlocknee Association, now in session with Live Oak church, to our Sister Associations, with whom we correspond:

Beloved Brethren and Sisters in Christ,--Through the mercies of God we have been blessed to hold another session of our body in perfect peace. Our representation is full. Your ministers came to us in the fulness of the spirit of Jesus, gladdening our drooping hearts. Our next session will be held, the Lord permitting, with Bethel church, Brooks county, Ga., 6 miles east of Pavo, on the Georgia Northern Railway, and 7 miles south of Berlin, on the V. M. & W. Railway; where and when we hope to meet you again. Until then farewell.

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## **Circular Letter**

He first loved us.

We love Him because He first loved us. This is the testimony of God's holy spirit. We did not love God before He loved us, because our loving Him is the result of His precious love. God loved us when we were His enemies. It was His electing love brought to bear when we were chosen in Christ. He choosed us because He loved us, even before we loved Him. It was a great display of love when He gave His Only Son to come, bleed, and die for His people. God loved us when we were dead in sin. God, who is rich in mercy for His great love wherewith He loved when we were dead in sin,



hath quickened us together in Christ. The deep unfathomable love of God underlies the whole plan of salvation. It is the work of love to save His people; when He quickens a poor sinner He sheds abroad His love in his heart and he loves God because God loved him first. God is the first great cause and the last great end in our salvation, and all He requires of His people is to love Him and serve Him. The more we learn of God the more we love and adore Him. All our service should be rendered from a standpoint of love. It seems to me the older I get the greater the mystery that God should so love me as to give Himself for me. And not only this, but His tender, forbearing love has been extended to poor me all down through my life. Why I should be the recipient of such tender mercies, for if justice had been meted out to me, I am sure my case would have been different. God's love is immoveable. He loved His people before time. He loved them in time and will love them forever. There is nothing above or beneath that can separate them from His love. Heaven will be peopled with only those whom God loved with an everlasting love. All that God does for us is for our good. We may not be able to see it but even our chastisements are because God loves us and would correct us as His children. Oh, sweet thought, God will never be satisfied until the object of His love is safely housed in heaven, when there will be no more trials, sad and bitter disappointments. We will then say we loved Him because He first loved us. May God help us to live in love.

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## 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 Ochlocknee Primitive Baptist Association; two-thirds of which shall form a quorum.
3. Members 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.

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

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

6. It shall be the duty of the Moderator to preserve order, explain and put questions; he shall have the same right of speech as any other member, provided the chair shall be filled, but shall not vote except 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 Clerk before the Association rises. The Clerk shall also keep a file of the minutes to be presented at each Association, and shall be accountable for all money deposited in the hands of 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. Every church shall have a right to send two delegates to the Association, and no more.

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

11. 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.

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

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

14. Whenever a case is decided by a vote, there shall be no



more debate on the subject.

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

16. 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 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 privileges any person who is therewith connected in any wise, 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 wherewith one may edify another. Rom. 14:19. And as such, unless they manifest a suitable repentance, and immediately withdraw therefrom, and make suitable acknowledgments, shall be rejected from the fellowship of the church.

17. We recommend to the churches composing this body to receive members who went off with the Missionaries and all other Baptists at the time of their separation from us, providing 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 baptised by them since said separation only by experience and baptism.

18. This Association holds 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.

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

20. 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.

21. If any member shall break the Rules of this Decorum, he shall be reprov'd by the Moderator.

22. These Rules shall be read at every Association prior to entering on business.

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

ELDER E. R. RHODEN, Moderator.

J. W. GARDNER, Clerk.

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## Articles of Faith

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

2. We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the words of God by inspiration, and is our 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 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 persevere in grace and not finally fall away.

9. We believe that baptism and the Lord's Supper, and washing the saints' feet, are ordinances of Jesus Christ, and that true believers



are the only subjects of these ordinances, and that the only true baptism is by 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 minister has the right to the administration of the ordinances only such as are regularly called and come under the imposition of the hands by the presbytery.

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

ELDER E. R. RHODEN, Moderator.

J. W. GARDNER, Clerk.

# STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCHES	CLERK AND THEIR POSTOFFICE	PASTOR	NAME OF MESSENGERS	Exper. and Bapt'm Received by Let.	Rec'd Conf. Faith Restored.	Dismissed by Let.	Excluded	Deceased	Total Membership	Meeting Days	Contributions	Sunday of Annual Meeting
Pleasant Hill...	G. W. Taylor, Moultrie, Ga.	E. R. Rhoden	G. W. Taylor, E. R. Rhoden...	1 3			1	24	3	\$4 25	3	June
Bethel ...	Abe Ingram, Barney, Ga.	E. R. Rhoden	W. H. Singleton, J. W. Gardner	2 2			1	2 34	2	\$5 00	1	Sept
Sardis .....	Benj. Baker, Ellenton, Ga.	E. R. Rhoden	J. I. Baker, G. J. Chitty.....	2 2			1	1 60	4	\$7 00	4	Sept
Live Oak .....	J. W. Clark, Doerun, Ga.	E. R. Rhoden	M. W. Clark, J. J. Giles .....		2	3		52	1	\$5 00	1	Aug
Harmony .....	D. H. Chapman, Barwick, Ga.	J. A. Chitty	F. M. Renfroe, T. M. Massey...	3			5	70	4	\$4 00	4	Aug
Mt. Zion.....	H. M. Chastain, Coolidge, Ga.	A. L. Pearse	T. S. Barrow, Alex Murphy	2 1 1			2	2 42	1	\$3 00	1	Sept
Bethsaida .....	L. Johnson, Moultrie, Ga.	A. L. Pearse	R. L. Watson, L. Johnson.....					24	3	\$2 00	3	Sept
Pleasant Grove	L. H. Avera, Moultrie, Ga.	A. L. Pearse	N. E. Chastain, J. W. Strickland		2			1 55	2	\$4 00	2	Sept
Mt. Pisgah.....	V. C. Hand, Ochlocknee, Ga.	J. W. Williamson	George Lewis, J. R. Lewis .....	1				1 27	1	\$3 00	1	July
Bethlehem .....	L. J. Renfroe, Quitman, Ga.	J. L. Harris	B. B. Olliff, S. Bailey .....	1 2				23	2	\$2 55	2	Oct
TyTy .....	J. L. Lawson, Tifton, Ga.	E. Lindsay	E. Lindsay, J. Z. Paulk .....	6	2		1	1 44	2	\$4 35	2	Sept



